

Our Children, LEADERS of the FUTURE, আমাদের সন্তান, আগামী নেতৃত্ব

Federation of Bangladeshi Associations
in North America



Established in 1987

FOBANA[®]

Annual Report 2017-2018

July 27-29, 2018

Georgia World Congress Center
285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW
Atlanta, GA 30313

Federation of Bangladeshi Associations
in North America



Established in 1987

FOBANA[®]

FOBANA CONVENTION 2019

New York

August 30, 31 & 1 September

Our Children, Our Pride

Hosted by:
DRAMA CIRCLE
New York



ড্রামা সার্কল



Nargis Ahmed

Convener

FOBANA Convention 2019

917-833-8974



Abir Alamgir

Member Secretary

FOBANA Convention 2019

347-724-9518



FOBANA®, is a non-profit, non-political and non-discriminatory, IRS 501c(3) tax-exempt (Tax ID 26-1747615) organization, established 1987. Only qualified Bangladeshi Associations in North America can be the members of FOBANA. One of the most important goal of this organization is to preserve and promote the language, culture and heritage of Bangladesh. This organization of Bangladeshi Associations in North America has been recognized as an umbrella, where all the Bangladeshis living in North America can gather to celebrate their successes and deliver cultural talents through stage performances. Since its inception in 1987, FOBANA® has been working tirelessly in this land far away from our ancestral homeland to keep our indigenous culture and commence it to our next generation growing in North America, primarily.

In addition, FOBANA® has recently received appreciation for its work to assimilate our people with the mainstream of North American people and culture. Those of us who are working in spite of all obstacles in different communities all over the continent are getting recognition from this organization. In other words, FOBANA® is a symbol of our hope and aspiration and a unifying force for bringing our communities together and for moving it in forward direction.

Please join us if you haven't already done so and encourage other organizations to join FOBANA too!

Registered Agent: Legalzoom

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fobanaec@gmail.com



Official FOBANA Theme Song



ফোবানা, ফোবানা
প্রতি রক্ত কনিকা উঠল নেচে ফোবানার গানে
উঠল জেগে বাঙালীর চেতনা
এই মুক্ত আকাশ প্রান্তরে, প্রতি বাঙালীর অস্তরে,
উঠল জেগে বাঙালীর চেতনা । । । । ।
বাংলাদেশ আমার প্রেরণা, বাংলাদেশ আমার সাধনা
স্বাগত জানাই ফোবানায়, স্বাগতম ফোবানা । ।

অনেক কষ্টে এনেছি আমরা দেশের স্বাধীনতা,
প্রবাসে পাড়ি দিয়েও আমরা ভুলতে পারিনি তা ।
তিরিশ লক্ষ প্রাণ দিয়েছে, যুদ্ধ করেছে জয়,
অত্যাচারীর উদ্ধতশির লুটিয়ে পরেছে পায় ।
স্বাধীনতার চেতনা, বিশ্বকে আজ জানিয়ে দেব তা ।
ফোবানা, ফোবানা । । । ।

রবি ঠাকুরের গীতি মালার সুরের মূর্ছনায়,
আমি চলে যাই মেঠ পঠ ধরে দূরের কোনো গায় ...
নজরুলের কবিতা আমায় আজ দেয় সাড়া,
বিদ্রোহী হতে শিখিয়ে দেয়, মনটাকে দেয় নাড়া ।
এ আমার চেতনা, এ যে আমার বাঙালী চেতনা ।
ফোবানা, ফোবানা । ।

জীবনানন্দের রূপসী বাংলা, কোথাও খুঁজে না পাই,
সবুজে ঘেরা আমার স্বপ্ন বাংলাতে খুঁজে পাই । ।
লালনের সেই একতারাটা আবার বেজে ওঠে,
বাউলের সুর, রাখালের বাঁশি, আমার বুকে বাজে । । ।
দরদিয়া, রাখালিয়া, গেয়ে যাব আজ সবার হৃদয়ে তা ।
ফোবানা, ফোবানা । । । ।



Written and composed by

Rommel Khan (Feedback, Atlanta)



Original singers:

Rommel Khan and Polly Kabir.





A Message from the FOBANA Chairperson



Welcome to the 32nd FOBANA Convention that will be taking place at the Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Both the central and host committees of FOBANA worked very hard to present this convention for all Bangladeshis in North America. I sincerely thank all the FOBANA executives, committee members, and volunteers for working so hard to organize such a grand program. I am really honored to serve in this great organization along with the active support of my team members and the volunteers.

FOBANA was established in 1987 to unite all Bangladeshi Associations in North America under one umbrella. Our primary goal is to uphold our heritage and culture in North America and strengthen the voice of Bangladeshis living in this continent. Our executive leadership team along with the host committee team subcommittee members, advisors, donors, and sponsors have been working very hard throughout the year to promote FOBANA's mission and vision. This year, we emphasized on team work by identifying new talents in our community to handle FOBANA's growing needs.

More than 50 organizations have joined FOBANA and there will be many more to join in the future. I encourage all FOBANA members to reach out to those Bangladeshi associations that are not yet the members of FOBANA. No organization is too small and we need to reach out to all Bangladeshis living in North America via these local organizations in different cities.

FOBANA has the infrastructure that can help preserve/promote our Bangladeshi culture and heritage and provide social services to our community members. Our social programs like the Domestic Abuse Crisis Hotline is one example of many other social programs FOBANA provides based on our community needs. We hope to develop stronger organizational infrastructure to support social programs like Job Finding Network, Business Network, Legal Service Network etc. I am sure with proper strategic planning we will find both the talented human resources and financial funding to help our community with such important services.

Thank you again for your generous support for the 2017-2018 term. Even though we had only 9 months for this term, we tried our best to fulfill our duties. I wish all the best to the future executives who can help FOBANA become stronger.

Sincerely,

Atiquer Rahman,
FOBANA Chairperson, 2017-2018



A Message from the Executive Secretary



Welcome to FOBANA 2018. This is the 32nd annual FOBANA convention that will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. After a yearlong of hard work to day Bangladeshis in North America will gather to witness the opening ceremony of the 32nd annual FOBANA convention. As a Bangladeshi-American, I feel really proud of being part of this dynamic organization.

FOBANA is the leading organization to uphold Bangladeshi culture and heritage in North America. Our executive leadership team, subcommittee members, donors, and sponsors have been working throughout the year to promote FOBANA's mission and vision. This year we strongly emphasized on improving the team sprint and distributed the FOBANA work load to the talented members to build future leaders. As you may already know, only the state registered organizations can join FOBANA and we invite all such Bangladeshi organizations join FOBANA.

FOBANA has the critical infrastructure that can support promoting our culture and heritage across North America. It can provide variety of services that our community needs. However, we need more resources and funding to support such programs in a sustainable manner. Hence, we must develop programs and execute those very diligently. Let's be forward-looking and carry out our conscience and obligations to help our fellow Bangladeshi-American. We hope that you come forward and support FOBANA in whatever ways possible.

FOBANA is a nonprofit organization and we are all volunteers. As the Executive Secretary of FOBANA, I thank all the volunteers, sponsors, donors for their hard work and support. On behalf of the FOBANA Executive committee, I thank each of you for giving us the opportunity to serve you. Let's congratulate the 2018 host committee for uniting us here in Atlanta for a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Shah Haleem
Executive Secretary
FOBANA
2017-2018

FOBANA Executive Committee (2017-2018)

Outstanding Members



Chairperson
Atiquer Rahman
Florida
(954) 818-2970



Outstanding Member
Azadul Haq
Houston, TX
(713) 249-1105



Vice-Chairperson
Mohamed Alamgir
Washington, DC
703-626-5814



Outstanding Member
M Mowla Dilu
Atlanta, GA
(770) 912-9169



Executive Secretary
Shah Haleem
Houston, TX
281-748-9880



Outstanding Member
M Rahman Jahir
Florida
(561) 876-2255



Joint Exec. Secretary
Zakaria Chowdhury
New York, NY
(646) 226-7144



Outstanding Member
Arif Ahmed Ashraf
Florida
(561) 985-3162



Treasurer
Masud Rob Chowdhury
Los Angeles, CA
(818) 730-1020



Outstanding Member
Rehan Reza
Tokepa, KS
(785) 554-0586

FOBANA Executive Committee (2017-2018)

Outstanding Members



Outstanding Member
Nahid Chowdhury
Mamun
Hawthorne, NJ
(201) 835-2473



Outstanding Member
Bedarul Islam Babla
New York, NY
(917)-885-8887

Executive Organization Members



**Bangladeshi American
Association of Georgia
(BAAG)**
Jashim Uddin
(770) 882-1293



**Bangladesh Association
of Los Angeles**
Sa Ahmed
(213) 440-3251



Drama Circle
Abir Alamgir
New York, NY
(347) 724-9518



**Bangladesh American
Women Association of
Texas**
Nahida Ali
(347) 724-9518



**Bangladesh Association
of Georgia Inc., (BAGI)**
Arif Ahmed
Atlanta, GA
(678) 698-8105



**Bangladesh Association
of America Inc. (BAAI)**
Sha Delwar Kajol
Spring eld, VA
(703) 300-0870

FOBANA Executive Committee (2017-2018)

Executive Organization Members



Mid Continent Bangladesh Association

Rabiul Karim Belal
Wichita, KS
(316) 393-0920



Bangladesh Association of New Jersey

Golam Faruque
Bhuyian,
Sayerville, NJ
(732) 983-7566



Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC (BAGWDC)

Anthony Gomes
(316) 393-0920



Bangladesh Association of North Texas

Hashmat Mobin
Dallas, TX
(732) 983-7566



Bangladesh Friendship Society

ZI Russell
Ashburn, VA
(646) 533-1350



Bangladesh American Foundation of Central Florida

Babul Hai
Orlando, FL
(321) 945-4741



Bangladesh Association, Houston (BAH)

Nahida Naser Yasmin
Houston, TX
(281) 467-8777

FOBANA Activity Report : 2017-2018



Dear Members,

As your Chairperson, I am pleased to share with you our activities and accomplishments during the last 10 months. Our team had a much shorter timeframe than last year's EC who had 13 months.

We would like to congratulate FOBANA for receiving the Congressional Proclamation for the 2018 Convention from Congressman Sheila Jackson Lee and the Congressional Certificate from Congressman Al Green, Senator Ted Cruz, Congressman Hank Johnson, and many others.

We wanted to bring positive transformations in this organization by making all our activities open and transparent. New talents are much needed to ensure a sustainable growth of any organization. As leaders we needed to find new talents to conduct the logistical and technical aspects of our activities efficiently and systematically. Hence, we have appointed Dr. Rafiq Khan (TX) as the Executive Logistics Committee chair to help us conduct the crucial tasks. Through his proactive leadership, we could change the web hosting, enable updates, and manage the FOBANA website. He has extensively supported by creating brochures, e-flyers, and other technological affairs within FOBANA central and the host committee. Dr. Rafiq Khan has done an extraordinary job behind the scenes.

We are actively searching for talented team players for our organization and appointing them in the right areas/subcommittees to help this organization grow further.

Major Highlights of the 2017-2018 Activities

1. EC was formed during AGM in October 2017 in Florida.
2. We have created new EC forum group and General members groups to have a communication platform.
3. We have created messenger text group to quickly dispatch information where our EC members are able to give feedback quickly and see photos, videos, links whereas google SMS was only txt notifications used in the past.
4. Establishing 24 sub committees to carry out the many tasks of FOBANA.

Name of Committees and Chairpersons led by Mohamed Alamgir, Vice Chairperson, FOBANA. List of the subcommittees are included on 15. All our subcommittees Chairpersons and the members are working hard to deliver their responsibilities.

5. Our executive team the and host committee are working with our Treasurer Mr. Masud Chowdhury to renew membership for the AGM.

6. Our team is working hard with the host committee every day to help raise funds and provide other support needed to make it a successful convention.



FOBANA Activity Report: 2017-2018

8. TEXAS TRIP: October - November 2018

In November, I took a trip along with Mr. Rabiul Karim Belal to visit the organizational leaders and their respective members in 4 major cities such as Dallas, Austin, Houston, and San Antonio in Texas. The purpose was to acknowledge their dynamic activities and to bring harmony amongst the Bangladeshi organizations. We visited the Harvey flood affected victims and toured the first Bangladesh-American Center under construction in Houston. We also had the pleasure to meet Mr. Sylvester Turner, Mayor of Houston, and to inform him about FOBANA's mission, vision, and goals.

9. ATLANTA TRIP - March 2018

During the first week of March, I along with Shah Haleem, Executive Secretary, attended the 2018 Host Committee's kickoff luncheon in Atlanta. Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin, Member Secretary Mr. Nahidul Khan Sahil, Host President Mr. Duke Khan led the team to form local unity to host a successful FOBANA. The host committee did a wonderful job of uniting everyone.

10. In March 2018, the host committee leaders also visited Florida to attend the food fair to promote FOBANA

11. BANGLADESH TRIP - March 2018

In mid-March, our FOBANA and Host Committee leadership team and patrons took a trip to Bangladesh to promote FOBANA and FOBANA 2018 Convention. We were accompanied by our Vice Chairperson Mr. Alamgir, Executive Secretary Mr. Shah Haleem, Host Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin, Host President Mr. Duke Khan, Member Secretary Mr. Nahidul Khan Sahil, Host Liaison Committee Chair Mr. Dilu Mowla, Business and Investment committee Chair Mr. Rabiul Karim Belal along with few other patrons.

March 23: Press Conference at the Dhaka Press Club

We hosted a successful press conference at the Dhaka Club VIP lounge. Over 150 news reporters attended the conference.

March 28: FOBANA hosted a Dinner Reception at the Dhaka Club

The FOBANA Dinner Reception at the prestigious Dhaka Club was a success. The entire event represented honest and excellent team work by both the FOBANA host committee team and FOBANA EC. Many thanks to **FAMACASH** and Rabiul Karim Belal for generously sponsoring this program. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest



FOBANA Activity Report: 2017-2018

Cabinet Minister Hon. Eng Mosharraf Hossain, followed by special guests including the Honorable Nure Hasnat Lili Chowdhury M.P, Telecommunication Secretary Shamsundar Sikder, LGRD Secretary Mrs. Mafruha Sultana, BTRC Chairman & Former FOBANA Chairman Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood, Ambassador Abdus Salam, Major General M Shamim Ahmed, Major General Monir, Brigadier General A. K. K. Lodi, Chief Forest Conservator Shafiul Alam Chowdhury. Many high level corporate & business leaders attended FOBANA Dinner Reception. Just to name a few are: Engineer Mohammed Alamgir of MAXX group, S.M. Noor Uddin CEO Summit Group, Shiblee Hasham, Country Director of Halliburton, Nazib Ahmed Chairman FBCCI Standing committee, Dr. Zahir Ahmed Professor Jahangir Nagar University, Dr. Joshoda Deb Nath of Technomedia, Tojazzal Ali Chairman of Standard Group. Many high level Govt Officials & business leaders, corporate leaders, renowned journalists and artists participated in this extraordinary program. The Chief Guest encouraged business & community leaders to attend FOBANA convention which would strengthen the tie between BD & USA. Program was presided by Convener Jashim Uddin, Chairman Atiquer Rahman, EC Secretary Shah Haleem, Member Secretary Nahidul Khan, Host President Duke Khan, Chief Coordinator M. MOWLA Dilu, EC Vice President Attorney Mohammad Alamgir, EC Member Rabiul Karim Belal thanked the audience and gave a briefing about FOBANA. Everyone's leadership was very much appreciated.

12. NEW YORK TRIP - May 2018

On May 11th, the 2018 host committee leadership team led by Convener Mrs. Nargis Ahmed and Member Secretary Mr. Abir Alamgir organized the 2019 convention kick off dinner in NY. We travelled to support the kick off dinner. We were accompanied by our Vice Chairperson Mr. Alamgir, Executive Secretary Mr. Shah Haleem, Host Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin, Member Secretary Mr. Nahidul Khan Sahil Business and Investment Committee Chair Mr. Rabiul Karim Belal. Many leaders from NY and NJ attended this wonderful fundraising event among are FOBANA past Chairpersons Mr. Mir Chowdhury, Mr. Nahid Chowdhry Mamoon, Dr. Nuran Nabi, Mr. Bedarul Islam Babla, Mr. Rabiul Karim Belal, EC member Mr. Gulam Faruq Bhuyian, 2017 Host Convener and EC member Mr. Mohammad Rahman Zahir, AGS Mr. Zakaria Chowdhury, 2018 Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin and Member Secretary Mr. Nahidul Khan Sahil along with many sponsors, donors and members, news media, and reporters.

13. Our 2018 Host Committee leaders visited many cities to promote and raise funds. In the month of May, the host committee also visited Boston to attend the Investment Seminar to promote FOBANA.



FOBANA Activity Report : 2017-2018

14. WASHINGTON, DC TRIP – June 2018

In June, we visited Washington DC to invite H.E. Ambassador Ziauddin and attended the fundraising reception hosted by BAGWDC. It was a very successful event.

We expect the FOBANA 2018 convention to be successful under the proven leadership of Host Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin along with help of the Member Secretary Nahidul Khan Sahil, the Host Committee President Mr. Duke Khan and the Host committee chief coordinator M. Mowla Dilu .

What to expect from the 2018 FOBANA Convention

- Expect a great 3 days convention as you witnessed in the past years
- Expect a warm, hospitable host committee, best venue/hotel accommodation
- Expect your badges and welcome packages
- Expect EC meeting on Saturday
- Expect EC to host AGM on Sunday as it happened in the past years
- Expect a very organized FOBANA Business Networking Lunch
- Expect to see, meet, and mingle with thousands of Bangladeshis attending the convention
- Expect all sub committees to conduct their responsibilities systematically and efficiently
- Expect to be part of the first time awarding of 10 scholarships totaling \$10,000

As your Chairperson, I feel that our FOBANA is developing, flourishing, and heading in the right direction. It is an organization led by a team of talented leaders and subcommittee members and not just by any individuals. We want to wholeheartedly thank each one of you for your support and contributions to the success of FOBANA. I whole heartedly thank my executive committee, Standing Committees, all past chairpersons/advisors and the caring FOBANA members for their support. Looking forward to and excited about achieving our goals by working together as an excellent team and community.

Sincerely,

Atiquer Rahman

Chairperson, FOBANA (2017-2018)

Message from the Vice Chairman & the Chairman of the Legal Committee

Annual Report 2017-2018



This year, as a Vice Chairman and Coordinator of all Standing Committee Chairs, I formed all those committees with the consultation and assistance of EC Chairman and EC Secretary as well as our EC Members. Pursuant to our regulations, initially I nominated many Committee Chairs. However, when we did not accommodate other interested prospective Chairs, we decided to incorporate three additional Chairmanships with the advice and consent of our EC Chairman and EC Secretary. However, while most of these Committee Chairs have worked very satisfactorily, some of them have not even called a meeting or never even provided their Committee Members. As a Vice Chairman, I have given notice to those people through EC as well as in their own email, but I did not receive a response from some of them. Therefore, my recommendation as well as observation is that some of these Chairs should not be repeated next year. Also, we found an error in creating some of the outstanding Chair positions that were done without the consultation or approval of EC members. Therefore, this issue also has to be resolved in the future.

I also was happy to be the continuous Chairperson of our Legal Committee and having been in the Committee for so many years. We had the same Committee Members as last year and we did not face any substantial issues that needed to be resolved through the Legal Committee: however, we have received a few tips and news that could have been contrary to our good FOBANA name and illegal use of it including but not limited to violating trademark laws as well as FOBANA as an Intellectual Property. Legal Committee was very active and very zealously pursued those tips and inquiries and warned those involved individuals and thus received good and positive results.

Finally, I assure you as a Legal Committee Chair, that we'll work as a team and we'll ensure our members and organizations that Legal Committee will always be active and cooperative to resolve any legal issues that FOBANA can face and its reputation does not go down or be tainted by any individual or organization here in North America or in Bangladesh.

Sincerely,

Mohamed Alamgir

Vice Chairman & Chairman of Legal Committee



FOBANA Standing Committees

Throughout the year FOBANA works through various Standing Committees. As per the Operating Procedure, these committees must be chaired by one of the present or past EC members.

1. Alumni Committee – Mahbub Rahim Reza (AZ)
2. Awards Committee – Nahid Chowdhury (NJ)
3. Bangladesh Liaison Committee – Atiquer Rahman (FL)
4. Business & Investment Committee – Rabiul Karim Belal (KS)
5. Constitution & Procedure Review Committee – Bedarul Islam Babla (NY)
6. Convention Liaison Committee – Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury (TX)
7. Cultural Committee – Duke Khan (GA)
8. Executive Logistics Committee – Dr. Rafiq Khan (TX)
9. Goodwill and Promotion Committee – Abir Alamgir (NY)
10. Legal Committee – Mohamed Alamgir (DC)
11. Mainstream Liaison Committee – Shah Haleem (TX)
12. Media & Public Awareness Committee – Atiquer Rahman (FL)
13. Membership Verification Committee – Jashim Uddin (GA)
14. Seminar Committee – Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)
15. Social Networking Committee – Anthony P Gomes (VA)
16. Scholarship Committee – Rehan Reza (KS)
17. Unification Committee – Mir Chowdhury (NJ)
18. Women Empowerment Committee – Nahida Ali (TX)
19. Youth Forum Committee – Zakaria Chowdhury (TX)

Newly Proposed Standing Committees

1. Budget & Finance Committee – Masud Rob Chowdhury
2. Host Committee Liaison Committee Mr. M. Mowla Dilu (GA)
3. Fundraising Committee Arif Ahmed Ashraf (FL)
4. Leadership Development/Organizational Empowerment Committee Hasmat Mobin (TX)

Alumni Committee



Chairperson
Mahabub Reza Rahim

Awards Committee



Chairperson
Nahid Chowdhury
Mamun (NJ)



Mir Chowdhury
(NJ)



Rabiul Karim Belal
Wichita, KS



Mahabub Reza
Rahim (AZ)



Bedarul Islam Babla
New York, NY



Rehan Reza
Tokepka, KS



Jashim Uddin)
Atlanta, GA




Duke Khan
Atlanta, GA







Bangladesh Liaison Committee

	<p>Chairperson Atiquer Rahman (FL)</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu Advsor Bangladesh</p>
	<p>Cochair Ranju Alim</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Naim Nizam</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Shamol Dutta</p>		<p>M. Mowla Dilu</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Omar Ayaz Oni</p>		<p>Nazneen Ferdousi Co-chair</p>
	<p>M. Anisul Kabir Jasir</p>		<p>Mohammad Emran</p>
	<p>Z.I. Russell</p>		<p>Shara Ali</p>



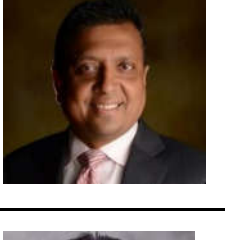


Business & Investment Committee

	<p>Chairperson Rabiul Karim Belal (FL)</p>		<p>Mahabub Reza Rahim Co-chairperson</p>
	<p>Golam Faruque Bhuiyan Co-chairperson</p>		<p>Safi Ahmed Co-chairperson</p>
	<p>Duke Khan Co-chairperson</p>		

Constitution and Procedure Review Committee

	Chairperson Bedarul Islam Babla (NY)		Musharraf Hossain (MD)
	Mir Chowdhury (NJ)		Mahabub Reza Rahim (AZ)
	Rabiul Karim Belal (KS)		Jashim Uddin (GA)





Convention Liaison Committee

	Chairperson Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury (TX)		Rehan Reza (KS)
	Jashim Uddin (GA)		Mir Chowdhury (NJ)
	M. Mowla Dilu (GA)		

Cultural Committee

	<p>Chairperson Duke Khan (GA)</p>		<p>Fahmida Nabi (BD) Advisor</p>
	<p>Nargis Ahmed (NH) Advisor</p>		<p>Azadul Haq (TX) Advisor</p>
	<p>Nahid Chowdhury (NJ) Advisor</p>		<p>ATM Alam (DC) Member</p>
	<p>Abu Rumi (DC) Member</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Golam Mohiuddin Muhib (GA), Member</p>
	<p>Guiden Hawkins (GA) Member</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Chitra Sultana (FL) Member</p>
	<p>Kabir Kiran (NJ) Member</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Dr. Ruby (CA) Member</p>

Cultural Committee (cont..)

	<p>Shahid Kazi (Montreal) Member</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Sraboni Humaira (BD) Member</p>
	<p>Sauda Kanta (NY) Member</p>		<p>Promi Taj Member</p>
	<p>Nahida Naser (TX) Member</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Samsul Alam (AK) Member</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Iqbal Khan (KS) Member</p>		

Executive Logistics Committee

	<p>Chairperson Dr. Rafiq Khan (TX)</p>		<p>Atiquer Rahman (FL)</p>
	<p>Mohamed Alamgir (DC)</p>		<p>Shah Haleem (TX)</p>
	<p>Nafiz Hossain (TX) Co-chair</p>		<p>Selina Khan (TX) Co-chair</p>
	<p>Sadrul Amin Sakil (TX)</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Adil Hussain (TX)</p>

Goodwill & Promotion Committee

	<p>Chairperson Abir Alamgir (NY)</p>		<p>Atiqer Rahman (FL) Member</p>
	<p>Ahmed Hossain Sunny (TX) Member</p>		<p>Akbar Haider Kiron (NY) Member</p>
	<p>Fajle Rabbi Rajib (NY) Member</p>		<p>Anisul Kabir Jasir Dhaka, Bangladesh Member</p>

Legal Committee

	<p>Chairperson Mohamed Alamgir (DC)</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Sheikh Salim Attorney at Law Co-Chairperson</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>John Kapoor Attorney at law Co-Chairperson</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Rasheda H. Nipu Attorney at Law Co-Chairperson</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Dr. Akhter Hamid Advocate, Supreme Court, Bangladesh Co-Chairperson</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Shahida Begum Assistant Attorney General, Bangladesh Co-Chairperson</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Adv. Jinnat Shohana Chowdhury Additional Public Prosecutor, Chittagong Judge's Court, Bangladesh Co-Chairperson</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Dr. Golam Farid Akhter Co-Chairperson</p>
	<p>Rabiul Karim Belal (KS) Co-Chair Ex-Chairperson FOBANA</p>		

Mainstream Liaison Committee			
	Chairperson Shah Haleem (TX)		Atiquer Rahman Co-Chair
	Mohammad Alamgir (DC) Co-Chair		Rehan Reza (KS) Co-Chair
	Dr. Abdus Sattar Co-Chair		Sharafat Hossain Babu (DC) Co-Chair
	Dr. Rafiq Khan (TX) Co-Chair		Radwan Chowdhury (DC) Co-Chair

Media and Public Awareness Committee

	<p>Chairperson Atiquer Rahman (FL)</p>		<p>Lovlu Ansar, Sr. Journalist Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Shibbir Ahmed, Khabor.com Co-Chair</p>		<p>Duke Khan (GA)</p>
	<p>Abir Alamgir (NY) Co-Chairperson NTV</p>		<p>Sharafath Hossain Babu Editor Bangla- deshi</p>
<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Akber Haider Kiran</p>	<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Neher Siddique</p>
	<p>Rumi Kabir (GA) Atlanta Bureau Chief, Khabor dot com</p>		<p>Shamsur Rahman CEO, Live2Web.tv</p>
	<p>Rabiul Islam (TX) Agami TV</p>		



Membership Verification Committee

	Chairperson Jashim Uddin (GA)		M Rahman Jahir Member
	Mir Chowdhury Member		Mahabub Reza Rahim Member
	Atiquer Rahman Member		Rehan Reza Member

Seminar Committee

	Chairperson Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)	<i>Photo not available at time of publication</i>	Iqbal Yousef (DC) Co-Chair
<i>Photo not available at time of publication</i>	Anis Ahmed, VOA (DC), Co-Chair	<i>Photo not available at time of publication</i>	Dr. Shabab Siddiqui, (GA), Co-Chair

Seminar Committee (cont..)

<p><i>Photo not available at time of publication</i></p>	<p>Saleh Uddin (GA) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Abir Alamgir (NY) Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Kabir Kiran, NJ Co-chair</p>		







Social Networking Committee

	<p>Chairperson Anthony P. Gomes (VA)</p>		<p>Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA) Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Akbar Haidar Kiran (NY) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Nahida Ali (TX) Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Abir Alamgir (NY) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Radwan Chowdhury (DC) Co-Chair</p>

Social Networking Committee (Cont..)

	Ahmed Arif (GA) Co-Chairperson		Shaidul Mallick Badhon (NY) Co-Chairperson
	Rabiul Islam (TX) Co-Chairperson		Tamanna Ahmed (FL) Co-Chairperson

Scholarship Committee





	Rehan Reza Chairperson		Farzana Uddin (Nishat) GA Co-Chairperson
	Mahbuba Sultana (Ipi) GA Co-Chairperson		Tamanna Ahmed Co-Chairperson
	Rokshana Perven Co-Chairperson		Perveen Patway Co-Chairperson

Scholarship Committee (cont..)

	<p>Dr. Rafiq Khan Co-Chairperson</p>		<p>Nahida Ali Co-Chairperson</p>
	<p>Arif Ahmed Co-Chairperson</p>		<p>Abir Alamgir Co-Chairperson</p>
	<p>Nahida Naser Yasmin Co-Chairperson</p>		<p>Golam Faruque, NJ Co-chairperson</p>
	<p>Safi Ahmed, CA Co-Chairperson</p>		<p>Sabina Chowdhury Co-Chairperson</p>

Unification Committee

	<p>Chairperson Mir Chowdhury (NJ)</p>		<p>Dr. Nuran Nabi, NJ Advisor</p>
	<p>Mr. Nurul Amin Chowdhury Advisor</p>		<p>Atiquer Rahman (FL)</p>
	<p>Mahabub Reza Rahim (AZ)</p>		<p>Hashmat Mobin (TX)</p>
	<p>Rabiul Karim Belal (KS)</p>		<p>Bedarul Islam Babla (NY)</p>
	<p>Jashim Uddin (GA)</p>		<p>Rehan Reza (KS)</p>

Unification Committee (cont..)			
	Mahmud Musharraf Hussain (MD)		Duke Khan (GA)
	Nahid Chowdhury Mamun (NJ)		Azadul Haq (TX)

Women Empowerment Committee			
	Chairperson Nahid Ali (TX)		Nahida Naser, Houston (TX)
	Maggie Haleem Houston (TX)		Natalie Hossain, Austin (TX)
	Farzana Zafreen Uddin (GA)		Towhida Rouf (GA)

Women Empowerment Committee (cont..)

	<p>Dr. Tahsina Atiquz-zaman (FL)</p>		<p>Souda Kanta (NY)</p>
	<p>Umme Sadeya (TX)</p>		<p>Salina Siddiqi Shushu Toronto, Canada</p>

Youth Forum Committee

	<p>Chairperson Zakaria Chowdhury (NY)</p>		<p>Iva Talukder, Co-chair</p>
	<p>Ryan Tanjib Taj Co-chair</p>		<p>Aminul Zilani (Collins) Co-chair</p>
	<p>Azaharul Islam (Liton) Co-chair</p>		<p>Arif Ahmed Co-chair</p>

Youth Forum Committee (cont..)



Abir Alamgir
Member



Nahida Ali
Member



Nurul Amin Babu
Co-chair









Maisha Ahmed
Member



Proposed New Standing Committees

Budget & Finance Committee


	Chairperson Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)		Atiquer Rahman (FL)
	Shah Haleem (TX)		Mir Chowdhury (NJ)
	Rabiul Karim Belal (KS)		Bedarul Islam Babla (NY)

Fundraising Committee

	Chairperson Arif Ahmed Ashraf (FL)
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Leadership Development Committee

Leadership Development/Organizational Empowerment Committee

	Chairperson Hashmat Mobin (MD)
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Host Committee Liaison Committee

	<p>Chairperson M. Dilu Mowla (GA)</p>		<p>Atiqer Rahman (FL)</p>
	<p>Mohamed Emran (FL) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Mir Chowdhury (NJ) Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Duke Khan (GA) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Nahida Ali (TX) Co-Chair</p>
	<p>Zakaria Chowdhury (NY) Co-Chair</p>		<p>Abir Alamgir Co-Chair</p>



FOBANA Member Organizations

This list is categorized based on the membership status

Executive Member Organizations

- 1 American Bangladesh Friendship Society Inc. (VA)
- 2 Bangladesh American Association of GA (BAAG) -GA
- 3 Bangladesh American Foundation of Central Florida –FL
- 4 Bangladesh Association of America, Inc. (BAAI) -VA/MD
- 5 Bangladesh Association of Georgia, Inc. (BAGI) - GA
- 6 Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC (BAGWDC)
- 7 Bangladesh Association of Houston (BAH) -TX
- 8 Bangladesh Association of Los Angeles (BALA)-CA
- 9 Bangladesh Association of New Jersey (BANJ) -NJ
- 10 Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT) -TX
- 11 Bangladeshi American Women Association of Texas –TX
- 12 Drama Circle –NY
- 13 Mid Continent Bangladesh Association (MCBA) -KS

General Member Organizations - Paid at least \$50.00 fee (Subject to Membership Verification)

- 1 American Bangladesh Heritage Foundation - TX
- 2 American Senior Housing Arrangement, INC (ASHA) -GA
- 3 Atlanta Cultural Society –GA
- 4 Austin Bangladesh Association (ABA) -TX
- 5 Bangladesh Academy of Los Angeles –CA
- 6 Bangladesh America Friendship Foundation Inc. - DC
- 7 Bangladesh American Multi Cultural Organization –FL
- 8 Bangladesh Association for Greater Kansas City (BAGKC) -KS
- 9 Bangladesh Association of Arkansas – AR
- 10 Bangladesh Association of California (BAC) -CA
- 11 Bangladesh Association of Florida (BAF) -FL
- 12 Bangladesh Association of Greater Austin (BAGA) -TX
- 13 Bangladesh Association of Michigan –MI
- 14 Bangladesh Association of Montreal –Quebec, Canada



FOBANA Member Organizations

This list is categorized based on the membership status

General Member Organizations - Paid at least \$50.00 fee (Subject to Membership Verification)

- 15 Bangladesh Association of Phoenix (BAP) -AZ
- 16 Bangladesh Community of Greater Chicago –IL
- 17 Bangladesh Community of Los Angeles –CA
- 18 Bangladesh Expatriate Society of Texas (BEST) -TX
- 19 Bangladesh Foundation of Florida (BFF) -FL
- 20 Bangladesh Foundation of Georgia (BFG) - GA
- 21 Bangladesh Institute of Performing Arts (BIPA) -NY
- 22 Bangladesh League of America (BLA) -NY
- 23 Bangladesh Sports Council of America –NY
- 24 Bengali Boy's Cultural & Sports Association—GA
- 25 Boishakhi Mela –CA
- 26 Friends and Families -VA
- 27 JAGORONI, INC - NJ
- 28 NRB Business Association USA Inc. –NY
- 29 Ora Egaro Jon –VA
- 30 Priyo Bangla –VA
- 31 Sangeet Parishad - NY
- 32 Shadesh Bangladesh –VA
- 33 Shatadal Inc. –NJ
- 34 Texas Bengali Cultural Alliance (TBCA) -TX
- 35 USA Bangladesh Cultural Center—NY



FOBANA Member Organizations

This list is categorized based on the membership status

New Membership Application Received in 2018 Paid at least \$50.00 fee (Subject to Membership Verification)

- 1 Bangladhara Inc –GA
- 2 Anandadhawani USA Inc. –NY
- 3 Banga Foundation -TX
- 4 Bangladesh American Cultural Association –NY
- 5 Bangladesh American Multi Cultural Association –FL
- 6 Bengali Association of Greater Nashville –NV
- 7 Dhaka Club of Florida –FL
- 8 Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society Inc. -NY
- 9 Karigor Production & Cultural Society –FL
- 10 Queens Bangladesh Society –NY
- 11 Sur Chanda Gousthy Inc –NY

Established in 1987
FOBANA®



FOBANA Member Organizations

Member organizations did not renew for 2018-2019

- 1 Aggrodhut
- 2 Anandadhara Cultural Institute of Central Florida
- 3 Bangla Academy
- 4 Bangla Institute of Performing Arts & Media (BIPAM)
- 5 Bangladesh Association of Central Ohio
- 6 Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland
- 7 Bangladesh Association of Georgia (BAG)
- 8 Bangladesh Association of Greater Chicagoland (BAGC)
- 9 Bangladesh Association of Southwest Florida
- 10 Bangladesh Community of Chicagoland (BCC)
- 11 Bangladesh Cultural Society of Florida
- 12 Bangladesh Society of America
- 13 Bangladesh Society of Bronx
- 14 Bangladesh Theater Houston (BTH)
- 15 Bangladesh Theater of America, Inc.
- 16 Bangladesh-America Cultural Organization of DC (BACODC)
- 17 Bangladesh-American Society of Greater Houston
- 18 BorNomala Shikkhangon, Inc
- 19 Choyanica Shilpi Goshti
- 20 Dallas Bangla Theater
- 21 Dhroopod Inc.
- 22 Dishary - US Bangla Cultural Organization
- 23 Jagoroni Shilpigoshti
- 24 Manchitro Manchitro INC
- 25 Oklahoma Deshi Youth Association
- 26 Prantik, Inc.
- 27 Queens Bangladesh Society
- 28 Shilpo Kola Academy
- 29 Shur Condo
- 30 Taranga
- 31 Udichi USA
- 32 US Bangladesh Foundation of Florida
- 33 US Institute Of Performing Arts Of Bangladesh



FOBANA Website

The main website is located at www.FOBANAonline.com. However, FOBANA also owns several other domains to avoid domain name conflicts. We have recently migrated the website from Mydomain.com to Hostgator.com due to several technical issues with the Mydomain.com. We have 3 years of agreement with Hostgator.com and the cost of hosting is significantly lower. The central website is managed using Joomla software and a professional company has been hired to improve the layout of the site using WordPress software. A brand new layout of the FOBANA convention has been already established using the WordPress software and the website will be launched after the 2018 FOBANA Convention. A brand new website for the FOBANA convention (fobana2018.fobanaonline.com) has been launched and Dr. Rafiq Khan worked with the Host organization to upgrade and maintain that site. We have purchased unlimited disk space, bandwidth and subdomains for the FOBANA website hosting and this is why we can keep all the convention websites under the main website. To share the cost it is mandatory for the host organization to pay an annual fee of \$500.00 to host the convention website under the main FOBANA website. This is the only way we can ensure that we can archive all the convention materials perpetually in FOBANA website. Currently we are grossing over 200,000 hits per month.

FOBANA website is maintained by Dr. Rafiq Khan

FOBANA Central Website: www.fobanaonline.com

FOBANA 2018 Website: www.fobana2018.fobanaonline.com



Alumni Committee

Mahbub Rahim Reza (AZ)

Chairperson (2017-2018)

Members: Dr. Nuran Nabi (NJ), Dr. Zainul Abedin (CA), Nargis Ahmed (NY), Nurul Amin (VA), Mohammed Kabir (NJ)

FOBANA Alumni Committee organized yearly meeting with all ex officials of FOBANA who guided this great organization for last 32 years. It is a forum of veteran leaders and our way to thank them for their vision, hard work, and leadership. We are expanding our activities with all other Alumni organizations in North America such as Dhaka University Alumni, Jahangir Nagar University Alumni etc.



Awards Committee

Mr. Nahid Chowdhury Mamun

Chairman:

Members: Mr. Atiquer Rahman, Mr. Duke Khan, Mr. Jashim Uddin, Mr. Mir Chowdhury, Mr. Rehan Reza, Mr. Mahbub Rahim Reza, Mr. Mohammad Alamgir, Mr. Bedarul Islam Babla, Mr. Rabiul Karim Babla, Mr. Shah Haleem

For FOBANA Award 2018, 5 individuals were nominated. All 5 nominees have accepted the award and agreed to attend 2018 FOBANA convention.

2018 award recipients are:

1. Dr. Nuran Nabi (NJ) –Contributions to FOBANA, as a freedom fighter, in the field of Mainstream politics and as scientist
2. Dr. Fazle Hussain (TX) -Contributions to the field of Education, Research and Engineering
3. Dr. Sultan S. Ahmed (FL) - Contributions to Medicine
4. Dr. William D. Finkle (CA) –Contributions to Bangladesh freedom and journalism to help with our independence
5. State Senator Mr. Sheikh Rahman (GA) -Contributions for mainstream politics highest elected Bangladeshi-American in North America.

Congratulations to all the award recipients and thank you all for your help. Let's make this convention the best ever.



Bangladesh Liaison Committee

Atiquer Rahman (FL)

Chairman

In Mid March some of us from the executive committee and the host committee travelled to Bangladesh to promote FOBANA and the 2018 FOBANA convention. We are accompanied by our Vice Chairperson Mr. Alamgir, Executive Secretary Mr. Shah Haleem, host committee convener Mr. Jashim Uddin, host committee president Mr. Duke Khan, member secretary Mr. Nahidul Khan Sahil, host Liaison Committee Chair Mr. Dilu Mowla, Business and Investment Committee chair Mr. Rabiul Karim Belal and few other patrons. We conducted two major programs as outlined below:

Hosted Press Conference at the DHAKA Press Club:

On March 23, 2018 we successfully arranged a press conference at the Dhaka Club VIP lounge. Over 150 news reporters attended the conference.

FOBANA hosted a Dinner reception at the Dhaka Club

A dinner reception was arranged by FOBANA at the Dhaka Club sponsored by FAMACASH (Rabiul Karim Belal). I was very happy to see the team work well coordinated team between the executive and host committee. We thank Usthob.com and FAMACASH for being our FOBANA 2018 title sponsors.



Business & Investment Committee

Rabiul Karim Belal (KS)

Chairperson

Members: Mahabub Reza Rahim, Golam Faruque Bhuiyan, Safi Ahmed, Duke Khan, Atiquer Rahman, Jashim Uddin, Shah Haleem

As you aware, most our activities are in progress. While FOBANA Business & Investment Standing Committee working hard to develop Businessmen connecting platform, where Businessmen can explores their endeavors with reliability and confident, with appropriate and proper resources.

Our team striving to organize a FOBANA Business Networking Luncheon on Saturday to meet greet and hear from few key successful business leaders. We thank you everyone for their hard work for helping us making the event a successful one.



Constitution & Procedure Review Committee

Bedarul Islam Babla (NY)
Chairperson

Members: Atiqer Rahman, Mir Chowdhury, Mahbub Reza
Rahim, Rabiul Karim Belal, Jashim Uddin and Mosharraf Hussain

Dear Mr. Chairman,

It was an honor to serve as the Chair of the Constitution Review Committee. As you know, the following individuals joined me on the committee:

Over the course of our review process, we came to a consensus around several proposals. We will soon send you our final recommendations so that you can take it into consideration during AGM 2018.





Convention Liaison Committee

Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury (TX)
Chairperson

Members: Rehan Reza (KS), Jashim Uddin (GA), Mir Chowdhury (NJ),
M Mowla Dilu (GA)

Lesson Learned

Items/Issues	Ownership	Category	Proposed Fix	Comment
Auditorium size	HC	Venue	Minimum capacity: 3000.	
Hotel location	HC	Venue	Connected to auditorium through walking.	
Food Vendors	HC	Venue	Multiple choices. Should have western food option.	Mainly for family/children.
Family Entertainment	HC	Venue	Arrange sight-seeing services.	
Opening protocol	HC	Program	Open with FOBANA theme song, along with national songs of Bangladesh, USA and Canada.	
Display flags of all states at the venue	HC & EC	Program	At the end of convention, next year's HC would collect those and keep in their possession.	
Selection and Invitaion of key guests	HC & EC	Program	(a) Should be non-religious and non-political. (b) Initial list comes from HC - should be approved by EC. (c) Invitation letter signed by both HC & EC describing the terms, condition and guideline of his/her participation/activities/speech at the event.	Holding office of Bangladesh government should be OK.
Deliberation from guest	HC & EC	Program	Clery outline the guideline and scope of their speech (from stage) in the invitation letter.	EC should prepare this common format letter.
Cultural Program layout guideline	HC & EC	Program	(a) Initial layout comes from HC - should be approved by EC Cultural committee. (b) Performance priority would be: Out of state FOBANA member organizations -> North America talents -> Local/Host team -> Artists from out of North America	
Cultural Program language guideline	HC	Program	Only Bangla and English based cultural presentation should be allowed	
Selection of Master of Ceremony (MC)	HC	Program	Deploy high quality multiple "Professional MCs" throughout the staged programs (opening to ending)	This will elevate the quality and professionalism of the program overall.
Selection of paid cultural artist from outside North America	HC	Program	Conduct survey among the members/FOBANA-followers through FB/Website. Try to pick the popular demands.	This will draw more crowd in the convention.



Convention Liaison Committee (cont..)

Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury (TX)

Chairperson

Lesson Learned (cont.)				
Items/Issues	Owner-ship	Category	Proposed Fix	Comment
No EC meeting during convention	EC	Operating Procedure	Finish last EC meeting before coming to convention.	Maximize time with friends and family during the three days of convention.
AGM/Election-process is taking off too much time...	EC	Operating Procedure	(a) Finish EC candidates selection before coming to AGM. (b) Mail signed ballots to the eligible voters before coming to AGM. All voting positions/candidates would be in one ballot - thus each eligible voting member will have only one physical ballot. (c) No proxy voting allowed. One authorized person could represent only one eligible voting member at AGM - thus, the person could physically possess and submit only one ballot at AGM. (d) Collect and count ballot at the AGM and publish election results.	Maximize time with friends and family during the three days of convention.
Heritage walk event during convention is not gaining momentum	EC & HC	Program	Consider dropping that, and divert the energy/resource to intensify media/communication campaign in this regard.	Brain-storm for more effective method toward this objective.
Weak to draw diverse local crowd and professional groups	HC	Program	* Invite/reach-out local/nation-wide professional groups/alumnis to hold their get-together/reunion at the FOBANA Convention for free. * Just provide them a meeting room for few hours (on Saturday afternoon) and publicize that in the program items.	Win-Win for both parties - they come here for their interest topic for free, and at the end some of these crowd will attend the ticketed programs anyway. Otherwise, they would never come to FOBANA.
Lack of estimation about the ball-park budget to host a convention	HC	Event Organization	HC to release high-level financial report (high-level Income/Expense reports of the big-ticket items) within 30 days of completion of the convention.	This will help new aspirant Host Organization on the overall financial requirement to host/organize a convention.
Ownership of the Convention program content	HC & EC	Program	FOBANA owns the contents of all of its activities. Any entity wants to officially capture and cast/publish those through outside-FOBANA media outlet (through their own media outlet) needs to pay (or something in exchange) to FOBANA, and the deal needs to be approved by EC.	Should start thinking about establishing own media outlet called: "FOBANA TV" (web based).



Cultural Committee

Duke Khan (GA)
Chairperson

This committee recommended three Artist to perform in the FOBANA 2018 convention as North American artists. Committee will select three judges to award the best performers in three different group during the convention.

Thank you to the executive committee for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Chairman of this committee, also thanks to all the committee members for being a part of this committee.

Best Regards,

Duke Khan

Chairman, Cultural Committee



Scholarship Committee

Rehan Reza (KS)
Chairperson

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

As of June 30, 2018, we have received 2 applications for the FOBANA Scholarship. We are hoping to get more applicants before the deadline of July 15, 2018. We are looking forward to giving five Scholarships this year.

As for the applications we have received, we have reached out to them confirming that we have received their applications and that we will be in touch with them shortly.

Prepared by:

Rehan Reza, Chairman



Goodwill & Promotion Committee

Abir Alamgir (NY)
Chairperson

FOBANA, the principal and major federation of different organizations administered and managed by Bangladeshi residents in different states of North America has been working for more than 31 years. FOBANA has attained and obtained a lot in these 31 years. A new subcommittee named Goodwill and Promotion has been formed 3 years earlier to endorse the overwhelming accomplishments of FOBANA. This committee has performed several tasks in last 3 years.

It is worthy to mention that goodwill and promotion committee has filmed a documentary on some distinguished leaders who are involved with FOBANA. In those interviews, leaders have shared their thoughts, experiences and opinions of last 31 years. Goodwill and promotion committee has continued to telecast that documentary in different social media and other media.

The chairman of this committee along with the other members of the committee kept continuing promoting the success of FOBANA in different programs in different states of North America. In addition, to promote 32nd FOBANA Convention (2018), we have produced news documentary on the venue selected for the FOBANA 2018 and video recorded the interviews of few key executives of host committee (2018). These documentaries have been widely circulated/viewed in the news channels, YouTube and social media. We hope to produce many such documentaries to preserve the ongoing activities of FOBANA and preserve the history of this organization.

Thanks.

Abir Alamgir
Chairman, Goodwill and Promotion Committee



Executive Logistics Committee (ELC)

Dr. Rafiq Khan (TX)
Chairperson (2017-2018)

Members: Atiquer Rahman (FL), Mohamed Alamgir (DC),
Shah Haleem (TX), Nafiz Hossain, Selina Afrin Khan, Sadrul
Amin Sakil, Adil Hussain

It is a great honor to serve FOBANA, a base for all Bangladeshis living in North America. My special thanks to our FOBANA Chairperson Atiquer Rahman, Executive Secretary Shah Haleem and the Vice Chairperson Mohamed Alamgir for their immense support and guidance throughout this term. To build this team, I have included several technically qualified individuals into this committee. It has been very time consuming to understand the process and build the team since this was my first year serving the as the chair of this committee. Here are some highlights of our ten months activities (October 2017– July 2018):

1. ELC committee has provided ongoing support to promote FOBANA by maintaining and upgrading FOBANA websites. Due to the technical problems we experienced with the web hosting company (Mydomain.com), we migrated the site to a new hosting company (HostGator.com) with 3 years contract (cost of hosting: ~\$250.00 for three years). It has been running smoothly so far.
2. To improve the functionality of the FOBANA website, we have hired a professional company to redesign the layout of the site using a more sophisticated/ user friendly website content management system called WordPress. The site is ready and it will be launched after the formation of the 2018-2018 executive committee.
3. A brand new website was created for the FOBANA 2018 Convention using the new software WordPress based on the recommendations of Mr. Jashim Uddin and his team. Mr. Sohel Ahmed played a key role in providing the layout of the website. This website is being managed by me.
4. We also provided all the banners, posters, official letters/documents for the FOBANA Executive Committee. Whenever requested, this services were provided to the host committee as well. Such supports played a played an important role to ensure smooth flow of FOBANA activities in a timely manner. This annual report and the Business Power Lunch brochure have been prepared by this committee. We have also extended these services to some of the subcommittees whenever requested.

We feel great to serve for FOBANA, an united platform for all Bangladeshis living in North America. I wish all the best to the hardworking volunteers dedicating hundreds of hours to keep FOBANA grow. They are doing this to preserve and promote our culture, heritage and values. Kudos to all the great volunteers of FOBANA and long live the united FOBANA.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rafiq Khan, Ph.D.



Mainstream Liaison Committee

Shah Haleem (TX)
Chairperson

Members and Co-Chairpersons: Mr. Atiquer Rahman, Mr. Mohammad Alamgir, Mr. Rehan Reza, Dr. Abdus Sattar, Mr. Sharafat Hossain Babu, Dr. Rafiq Khan, Mr. Radwan Chowdhury

On behalf of the mainstream committee I am pleased to report that we have sent invitations to many elected officials in North America to promote our 32nd convention and FOBANA.

With the help of our committee we received Congressional Proclamation for 2018 convention from Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (TX), Congressional Recognition Certificate from Congressman Al Green (TX), Congressional greetings from Congressman Al Green (TX), FOBANA welcoming and greeting message from Senator Ted Cruz (TX), Welcoming and greeting message from Congressman Hank Johnson (GA), and many others.

We have sent invitations to the President of the United States Mr. Donald J. Trump. We have also invited many other elected officials though out North America including City of Atlanta Mayor Bottoms. We have requested Atlanta City Mayor to declare July 27th to declare FOBANA Day in Atlanta, GA.

We thank the 2018 FOBANA host committee Convener Mr. Jashim Uddin for his hard work and dedications and support he provided to our committee is deeply appreciated. We could not have done it without his help.

We welcome everyone to 32nd FOBANA convention. Let's all work as a team to host the best FOBANA ever.

Sincerely,

Shah Haleem (TX)

Chairperson, Mainstream Liaison Committee



Media & Public Awareness Committee

Atiquer Rahman (FL)
Chairperson

Our team released many press releases to over 135 news media outlets. We have used electronics media such as messenger, texting, Facebook, website to promote FOBANA and FOBANA convention. We have promoted FOBANA via NTV and many others WebTV media outlets.

We have conducted many TV interviews with other EC leaders and the host committee leaders to get our messages across. Due to our positive promotions and activities, we have attracted new donors to come to help our FOBANA.



Membership Verification Committee

Jashim Uddin (GA)
Chairperson

Committee members: Atiquer Rahman (EC Chairman), Mohammed Alamgir (EC Vice Chairman), Shah Haleem (EC Executive Secretary), Masud Rab Chowdhury (EC Treasurer), Nahidul Khan (Member Secretary), Mir Chowdhury (Member), Md Mahabub Reza Rahim,(Member), Rehan Reza (Member), Duke Khan (member), Azadul Haq (member)

The Membership Review Committee works on Membership Due date, implementing all the criteria, deliberate and review the membership candidates for this year.

This committee will finalize all the valid organization.



Seminar Committee

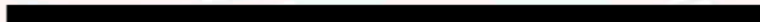
Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)
Chairperson

Members: Dr. Shahab Siddqui (GA), Saleh Uddin (GA), Abir Alamgir (NY), Kabir Kiron (NJ), Iqbal Yousef (DC), Anis Ahmed (DC)

It has been a great opportunity to be able to work with FOBANA and be the Chairperson for the Seminar Committee. Due to my recent family tragedy, I was not able to put my full time and effort into the committee, but now that I am back in the states, I am in full contact with Dr. Shahab Siddiqui. I have also sent in a presentation to the committee about the Rape of Rohingya Women. The documentary will be presented by member of the Democratic State Committee, Ms. Nazda Alam from Weston Massachusetts. This year's seminar topics are over multiculturalism and how to make Bangladesh more known throughout the world.

The following people have agreed to become co-chairs for the Seminar Committee. These members are very well experienced in seminars and I have no doubt that the Seminar Committee will be successful this year.

Mrs. Nahida Naser Yasmin
Chairperson, Seminar Committee



Youth Forum Committee

Zakaria Chowdhury (TX)
Chairperson

I am very honored and thankful to FOBANA executive committee for choosing me as the Chair of 'Youth Forum Committee'. My main responsibility as the chair of this committee is to select young talents to work on various aspects of FOBANA.

We youth Forum committee members seat together and choose from a list of young leaders to create a committee that later works with the host committee of youth forum chaired by Musaddeq Khan Sakib. This year the committee is going to arrange 'Evening Forever' a meeting for new generation on 28th July, 2018.

Our main goal is to make a generation of young leaders now who will lead FOBANA in future.

With best regards,
Zakaria Chowdhury,
Chairman, FOBANA Youth Forum.



Social Networking Committee

Anthony P Gomes (VA)
Chairperson

It has been a great honor to be a part of FOBANA and serve in the Social Networking Committee to promote FOBANA Vision & Mission including 32nd FOBANA Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with the talented leaders of our community in our

Social Networking Committee (Masud Chowdhury, Akbar Haider Kiron, Abir Alamgir, Shahidul Mallick, Nahida Ali, Radwan Chowdhury, Arif Ahmed, Tamanna Ahmed, Rabiul Islam), who have been committedly working to contribute with their best to leave an impact in our society.

Bangladeshi communities in North America grew enormously over the last few decades and moving forward with stronger strides than before. FOBANA, being the biggest Bangladeshi platform, has the capacity to contribute significantly in improving our communities, grow youth leadership and instill the philanthropic spirit among our people here in the US.

From the **Social Networking Committee**, we tried to promote FOBANA activities, event highlights from the past events and conventions. We held a successful committee meeting including our Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Executive Secretary to explore the most effective ways to promote FOBANA including the 32nd Convention and we did our best to promote in the social and news media to reach out to the Bangladeshi communities across North America.

To build a closer relationship with Bangladesh promoting upcoming convention, FOBANA EC Committee and the Host Committee of 32nd FOBANA Convention, held a successful Press Conference including a Dinner Reception in Dhaka, Bangladesh- we shared the same in the social and news media to create more awareness in our communities.

FOBANA is creating a strong footprint in the history of Bangladeshi diaspora bringing the communities together and we all are part of this wonderful journey. Let's make a difference in our society with positive impact.

We are wishing all the best for a very successful convention this year in Atlanta, Georgia.

Thanking you very much.

Sincerely,

Anthony Pius Gomes

Chairman,

Social Networking Committee, 2017-2018



Unification Committee

Mir Chowdhury (NJ)
Chairperson

Dear Mr. Chairperson/Vice Chairman, FOBANA Executive Committee (2017-2018),

I would like to thank you all for selecting me as the chairperson of the Unification Standing Committee. It is my honor and pleasure to lead this prestigious committee since the year 2013. In this committee, all previous Chairpersons are also the members of this committee so that we get help from all the experienced leaders of the past to solve complex issues related to the sustainable unification of FOBANA.

Unification process can be very difficult and complex. Our committee is prepared to help resolve any such issues related to unification. Whenever we receive a unification related proposal, we try to measure it first by understanding how much possibility it has, whom we are dealing with, and what procedure we should follow to handle this matter. For example, an unofficial proposal came to me and our respected Chairperson to unify with some peoples/organizations through a respected political leader this year. He requested us to have a face to face sitting in New York with a self-proclaimed FOBANA group (most of their activities is in Canada). In this case, being the standing committee Chairperson, I shared this proposal the committee members and got suggestions regarding how to handle it. Just for your information, these are the peoples or organizations who send us unofficial proposal every year for unification, but they have lack of interest or make unacceptable demands or proposals. So we take our decision based on our operating procedure where all the steps are clearly written regarding how to move forward for the unification process. The bottom line is that our doors are open all and we are ready to welcome whoever come with open mind and accept our constitution, bylaws, and operating procedure. We value their individual contributions to the society, but our Federation consists of organizations and they must need to come through organization.

I thanks to all my committee members for their time and suggestions. Together we will make FOBANA stronger.

Sincerely,
Mir H Chowdhury
Chairman, Unification Standing Committee



Women Empowerment Committee

Nahida Ali (TX)
Chairperson (2017-2018)

Annual Report

Presented by Nahida Ali, Chairperson

1. The new committee was convened on Jan 11, 2018. Nine members were selected from different cities of North America to expand network of women activists and volunteers. Multiple meetings were held among the members focusing on setting up short term and long-term goals, committee guidelines, education for volunteers, assistance protocol for abuse victims etc. Volunteerism is encouraged and appreciated by WEC. A thank you note was sent to past committee members through past chairperson on Feb 17, 2018.
2. The previous crisis hotline telephone number was found inactive since July 2017. A new crisis hotline phone number 805-351-2003 was established and activated on Feb 15, 2018.
3. WEC chairperson and members attended multiple cultural programs organized by FOBANA member organizations (BAH, BAGWDC, TABC, BANT) and Bangladesh Embassy to US to increase awareness about WEC and promote FOBANA crisis hotline services.
4. Since March 2018 till now, multiple victims of domestic violence reached out to the leaders of WEC from different states in the USA and Canada. Legal assistance, shelter information, counselling, relocation assistance etc. were provided to them.
5. Education about how to help a victim of domestic violence and abuse was provided to WEC members on April 8, 2018 to increase effective crisis intervention.
6. A seminar on women empowerment and domestic violence has been organized by WEC at the annual FOBANA convention 2018. Several celebrity goodwill ambassadors and motivational speakers will be present to increase awareness of the issues.
7. To promote women leadership, recommendation has been made to FOBANA EC to encourage women executive membership in every member organization.
8. No committee guidelines were found in the bylaws. Committee guidelines has been developed and presented to Vice chair for approval.

Thank You.

Nahida Ali (TX)

Chairperson, Women Empowerment Committee

Proposed Standing Committees



Budget & Finance Committee

Masud Rob Chowdhury, Chairperson

Dear FOBANA EC, EC member organizations and General Members,

I am pleased, honored and humbled to work with a group of talented and motivated team players. The Budget and Finance committee co-chairs diligently guided and advised me throughout the year on allocating budgets and various financial plantings.

We increased revenue by collecting more membership renewals, organization participation and integration to the community. Consistently monitoring and balancing the budget act had been a priority for us.

I thank you for your contributions, time, and efforts through serving on FOBANA Budget and Finance committee.

Masud Rob Chowdhury, Chairperson,



Host Committee Liaison Committee

M. Mowla Dilu (GA)
Chairperson (2017-2018)

It's been my honor serving Chair of this committee during 2017 - 2018. We have accomplished a lot during this short period. Things we have done together are as follows:

1. We worked with the host committee and EC members to make sure our tasks are understood among each other
2. Our committee chairs worked with EC sub committee chairs
3. Our trip to Dhaka Bangladesh to promote FOBANA was a true team efforts
4. We hosted press conference in Dhaka by working with EC and host committee
5. Our team attended local HC meetings and EC meetings and sub committee meetings
6. Coordinating with all members local and nationals are crucial tasks we performed all year around
7. Working with BD government officials for many FOBANA tasks are performed by our committee



FOBANA Past Chairpersons



Dr. Nuran Nabi
New Jersey (2001-2004)



Bedarul Islam Babla
New York (2011-2012)



Nurul Amin Chowdhury
Texas (2004-2005)



Rehan Reza
Kansas, (2012-2013)



Atiquer Rahman
Florida (2005-2006)



Mohamed Alamgir
*Washington, DC
(2012-2013)*



Mahabub Reza Rahim
Arizona (2006-2007)



**Mahmud Musharraf
Hussain**
*Washington, DC
(2013-2014)*



Mir Chowdhury
New Jersey (2007-2008)



Duke Khan
Georgia (2014-2015)



Hashmat Mobin
Texas (2008-2009)



Nahid Chowdhury Mamun
New Jersey (2015-2016)

FOBANA Past Chairpersons (cont..)



Rabiul Karim Belal
Kansas (2009-2010)



Azadul Haq
Texas (2016-2017)



Jashim Uddin
Georgia (2010-2011)



Atiquer Rahman
Florida (2017-2018)





FOBANA Advisors (2017-2018)



Dr. Nuran Nabi



Rabiul Karim Belal



Nurul Amin Chowdhury



Mahmud Musharraf
Hussain



Mahabub Reza Rahim



Duke Khan



Mir Chowdhury



Dr. Zainul Abedin

FOBANA Past Advisors



Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury



Jashim Uddin



Hashmat Mobin



FOBANA History

1. WASHINGTON D.C. (1987)

Host: Bangladesh Association of America, Washington D.C.
Date: October 31, November 1, 1987
Venue: World Bank H Building Auditorium
Convener: Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury/Rashida Alam
Executive Secretary: Wahed Hossaini

2. NEW YORK (1988)

Host: Bangladesh Society of New York & Bangladesh Society of New Jersey
Date August 27 & 28, 1988
Venue : Thomas Edision Vocational High School Auditorium
Convener : Dr. M. Yusuf
Member Secretary : Syed Tipu Sultan

3. BOSTON (1989)

Host : Bangladesh Association of New England
Date September 1-2, 1989
Venue : Kresge Auditorium, MIT
Convener : Prof. A.K. Abdul Momen
General Secretary: Prof. Nasir Ahmed

4. DALLAS (1990)

Host : Bangladesh Association of North Texas & Bangladesh Association of Houston
Date : September 1-2. 1990
Venue : Dallas Convention Center
Convener : Abul Kalam
Member Secretary Abdullah Hasan

5. NEW YORK (1991)

Host : Bangladesh Society of New York
Date : November 30, December 31. 1991
Venue : P.S. 131 Jamaica, New York
Convener : Awlad Hossain
Member Secretary : Dr. Moinul Islam Miah

6. CHICAGO (1992)

Host : Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland
Date : September 5-6, 1992
Venue Northeastern Illinois University
Convener: Dr. Mohammad Sirajullah
Executive Secretary : Zafar S. Ashraf



FOBANA History

7. TORONTO (1993)

Host : Bangladesh Association of Toronto
Date : September 4 -5 , 1993
Venue: Skyline Airport Tower & Hotel
Convener : Shamsul Huda

8. NEW JERSEY (1994)

Host : Bangladesh Society of New Jersey
Date September 2-4, 1994
Venue : Brunswick Hilton & Tower
Convener : Dr. Siddiqur Rahman
Executive Secretary: Mir H. Chowdhury

8. BOSTON (1994)

Host: Bangladesh Association of New England
Date: September 2-4, 1994
Venue: Uster Memorial Auditorium
Convener: Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood
Member Secretary: Sayed Liton

9. MONTREAL (1995)

Host : International Society of Bangladesh & Bangladesh Association of Quebec
Date : September 1-3, 1995
Venue : Sheraton Laval Convention Center
Convener: Dr. Abu Lais Sher
Secretary: Masum Rahman / Niranjan Sarker

9. MONTREAL (1995)

Host: International Society of Bangladesh & Bangladesh Association of Quebec
Date: September 1-3, 1995
Venue: Sheraton Downtown Montreal
Convener: Dr. Abu Syed Miah
Member Secretary: Azaz Aktar Tofiq

10. FLORIDA (1996)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Florida
Date: August 30 September 1, 1996
Venue: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Miami
Convener: Dr. Abdus Sattar Khan
Member Secretary: Rashid A Sheikh



FOBANA History

10. NEW JERSEY (1996)

Host: Bangladesh Society of New Jersey
Date: August 30-31, September 1, 1996
Venue: Meadowland Exposition Center
Convener: Dr. Jaglul Kabir
Member Secretary: Lazima Mahmood

11. LOS ANGELES (1997)

Host: Bangladesh Association of California
Date: August 29-31, 1997
Venue: Burbank Airport Hilton
Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin
Executive Secretary: Duke Khan

12. NEW YORK (1998)

Host: Bangladesh Society of New York
Date: September 1-3, 1998
Venue: Madison Square Garden
Convener: M. Akhtar Hossain
Member Secretary: M. Hossain Khan

13. ATLANTA (1999)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Georgia
Date: September 3-5, 1999
Venue: North Atlanta Trade Center
Convener: Mintu Rahman
Member Secretary: Abu Liakat Hossain

13. ATLANTA (1999)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Georgia
Date: September 3-5, 1999
Venue: Hotel Marriott
Convener: Mohammad Zaman Jontu
Member Secretary: Monirul Islam

14. NEW YORK (2000)

Host: Bangladesh League of America, NY. Inc.,
Date: September 1-3, 2000
Venue: Madison Square Garden
Convener: Rani Kabir
Acting Convener: Emad Chowdhury
Member Secretary: Bedarul Islam Babla
Chief Coordinator: Saidur Rab



FOBANA History

14. TORONTO, CANADA (2000)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Toronto

Date: September 1-2, 2000

Convener: Mahbubur Rahman

Member Secretary: Abu Zubair Dara

15. MONTREAL (2001)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Montreal

Date: August 31 September 1-2, 2001

Venue: Renaissance Hotel

Convener: Mokbul Hossain Mukul

Member Secretary: Iqbal Kabir

15. MONTREAL, CANADA (2001)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Montreal

Date: September 1-2, 2001

Venue: Olympic Stadium

Convener: Azaz Aktar Tofiq

Member Secretary: Gazi Kamrul Hassan

16. DALLAS (2002)

Host: Bangladesh Association of North Texas

Date September 1-3, 2002, Venue: Dallas Expo Center

Convener: Nurul Amin Chowdhury

Member Secretary: Hashmat Mobin

In this convention decision was made to form the Executive Committee

16. NEW YORK (2002)

Host: Bangladesh Society, INC.

Date: August 31, September 1, 2002

Venue: Manhattan Center

Convener: Mohammad Moynul Hoque, M.D.

Member Secretary: AKM Fazley Rabi

17. DETROIT (2003)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Michigan

Date: August 29-31, 2003

Venue: Detroit Opera House

Convener: Akikul Hoque Shamim

Joint Member Secretary: Kamrul Huda Russel & Shafqat Chaudhury

Chairperson: Dr. Nuran Nabi

Member Secretary: Hashmat Mobin



FOBANA History

17. WASHINGTON, D.C. (2003)

Host: Bangladesh Association of America, INC.

Date: August 31, September 1, 2003

Venue: Washington Hilton

Convener: Dr. Shajahan Mahmood

Member Secretary: ATM Nurul Alam

18. WASHINGTON D.C. (2004)

Host: Bangladesh Association of America, Inc. (BAAI)

Date: September 3-5, 2004

Venue: Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, Virginia

Convener: M. Abu Solaiman

Member Secretary: Golam M. Farooque

Chairperson: Dr. Nuran Nabi

Executive Secretary: Abu Liaquet Hossain

18. LOS ANGELES (2004)

Host: Bangladesh Society of Los Angeles

Date: September 3-5, 2004

Venue: Kodak Center, Los Angeles

Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin

Member Secretary: Shakawat Ali Rimon

19. FLORIDA (2005)

Host: Bangladesh Foundation of Florida

Date: Labor Day Weekend, September 2-4, 2005

Venue: Radisson Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Miami

Convener: Shameem G. Khan

Member Secretary: Atiquer Rahman

Chief Coordinator: Abdul Wahid Mahfuz

Chairperson: Nurul Amin Chowdhury

Executive Secretary: Mahbub Reza Rahim

19. TORONTO, CANADA (2005)

Host: Bangladesh Society of Canada

Date: September 2-4, 2005

Venue: Sheraton Convention Center

Convener: Abu Zubair Dara

Member Secretary: Toppon Mahmood



FOBANA History

20. ATLANTA (2006)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Georgia
Date: Labor Day Weekend, September 1-3, 2006
Venue: Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA
Convener: Jashim Uddin
Member Secretary: Mohammed Arefin Babul
Chairperson: Atiquer Rahman
Executive Secretary: Mahabub Reza Rahim

20. MONTREAL, CANADA (2006)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Montreal
Date: August 31, September 1-2, 2006
Venue: Montreal Olympic Stadium
Convener: Shamimul Hassan
Member Secretary: Kazi Shahid

21. KANSAS (2007)

Host: Midcontinental Bangladesh Association & Bangladesh Association of Greater Kansas City
Date: Labor Day Weekend, August 31 - September 2, 2007
Venue: Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS
Convener: Rabiul Karim Belal
Member Secretary: Rehan Reza
Chairperson: Mahabub Reza Rahim
Executive Secretary: Jashim Uddin

21. WASHINGTON, D.C. (2007)

Host: Bangladesh Association of America, INC.
Date: September 1-2, 2007
Venue: Fairview Marriott Hotel
Convener: Karim Salaudin
Member Secretary: ATM Alam

22. DALLAS (2008)

Host: Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT)
Date: July 4th Weekend, July 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2008
Venue: Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, Downtown Dallas, Texas
Convener: Hashmat Mobin
Member Secretary: Sarwar Kamal
Chairperson: Mir Chowdhury
Executive Secretary: Bedarul Islam Babla



FOBANA History

22. NEW YORK (2008)

Host: America Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce

Date: July 3-5, 2008

Venue: Manhattan Hilton Hotel

Convener: Giash Ahmed

Member Secretary: Hassanuzaman Kamal

23. HOUSTON (2009)

Host: Bangladesh Association, Houston

Date: July 4th Weekend, July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2009

Venue: George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas

Convener: Afzal Ahmed

Member Secretary: Azadul Haq

Chairperson: Hashmat Mobin

Executive Secretary: Rehan Reza

23. WASHINGTON, D.C. (2009)

Host: American Bangladeshi Business Association

Date: July 2-4, 2009

Venue: Hilton Mark Center

Convener: Sadik Khan

Member Secretary: ZI Rasal

24. LOS ANGELES (2010)

Host: Bangladesh Academy of Performing Arts

Date: July 4th Weekend, July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2010

Venue: Pasadena Convention Center, Los Angeles, California

Convener: Zahid Hossain

Member Secretary: Tawfiq Khan

Chairperson: Rabiul Karim Belal

Executive Secretary: Nahid Chowdhury Mamun

24. MONTREAL, CANADA (2010)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Montreal

Date: September 1-2, 2010

Venue: Olympic Stadium

Convener: Azaz Aktar Tofiq

Member Secretary: Gazi Kamrul Hassan



FOBANA History

25. NEW JERSEY (2011)

Host: Bangladesh Association of New Jersey

Date: July 1-3, 2011

Venue: Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, New Jersey

Convener: Mir Chowdhury

Member Secretary: Nahid A Chowdhury

Chairperson: Jashim Uddin

Executive Secretary: Rehan Reza

25. Washington D.C.

Host: Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington D.C.

Date: July 1-3, 2011

Venue: Crystal City Hilton

Convener: Mohammad Alamgir

Member Secretary: Nurul Amin Nuru

26. FLORIDA (2012)

Host: Bangladesh Foundation of Florida

Date: August 31, September 1-2, 2012

Venue: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Convener: Atiquer Rahman

Member Secretary: Mujib Uddin

Chairperson: Bedarul Islam Babla

Executive Secretary: Duke Khan

26. FLORIDA (2012)

Host: Chyonika Shilpi Ghosti

Date: August 31, September 1-2, 2012

Venue: West Gate Resort

Convener: Khudrut E Khoda

Member Secretary: Babul Hai

27. ATLANTA (2013)

Host: Bangladesh American Association of Georgia

Date: August 30, September 1, 2013

Venue: Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, Georgia

Convener: Duke Khan

Member Secretary: M Mowla Dilu

Chairperson: Rehan Reza

Executive Secretary: Azadul Haq



FOBANA History

28. LOS ANGELES (2014)

Host: Bangladesh Association of California

Date: August 29-31, 2014

Venue: Marriott Burbank Airport Convention Center

Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin

Member Secretary: Belal Mustafa Syed

Chairperson: Mahmud Musharraf Hussain

Executive Secretary: Azadul Haq

29. NEW YORK (2015)

Host: Bangladesh League of America

Date: September 4, 5, 6, 2015

Venue: York College Campus, City College of New York

Convener: Bedarul Islam Babla

Member Secretary: Zakaria Chowdhury

Chairperson: Duke Khan

Executive Secretary: Azadul Haq

30. WASHINGTON, DC (2016)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC

Date: September 2, 3, 4

Venue: Sheraton Pentagon City, Washington DC

Convener: ATM Alam

Member Secretary: Nurul Amin Nuru

Chairperson: Nahid Chowdhury Mamun

Executive Secretary: Azadul Haq

31. FLORIDA (2017)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Florida

Date: October 6, 7, 8, 2017

Venue: Hyatt Regency Miami, Florida

Convener: M. Rahman Zahir

Member Secretary: Ali Ahmed Ashraf

Chairperson: Azadul Haq

Executive Secretary: M. Mowla Dilu

32. GEORGIA (2018)

Host: Bangladesh American Association of Georgia

Date: July 26-29, 2018

Venue: CNN Convention Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

Convener: Jashim Uddin

Member Secretary: Nahidul Khan (Sahel)

Chairperson: Mr. Atiquer Rahman (Florida)

Executive Secretary: Mr. Shah Haleem (Texas)



Constitution and ByLaws

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (FOBANA)

Article I: Name

Section 1: The name of the corporation shall be FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA. The abbreviated name shall be FOBANA.

Article II: Definition of the Organization

Section 1: FOBANA shall be a non-profit, non-political, non-religious and non-discriminatory corporation which was established in 1987.

Section 2: FOBANA shall be organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501 (c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article III: Goals and Objectives

Section 1: The objectives of FOBANA shall be but not limited to:

- a. Organize periodic Bangladesh Convention in North America. This period shall be determined by the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.
- b. Assign responsibility and provide guidance to a member organization to organize convention in North America.
- c. Organize activities to create awareness to help fight discrimination and prejudice against people of Bangladeshi origin in North America.



- d. Strengthen ties between North America and Bangladesh.
- e. Be the central contact point of Bangladeshi organizations in North America.
- f. Promote ethnic Bangladeshi culture enriching the multiethnic traditions of the communities living in North America.
- g. Work towards protecting interest of people of Bangladeshi origin especially women, seniors and alumni and assist them on social issues through member organizations.
- h. Promote participation of youths in social, cultural, educational and scientific activities in North America and Bangladesh. Encourage and assist the youths for future leadership role.
- i. Promote and assist NRB Investment and business opportunities in USA, Canada and Bangladesh.
- j. Promote charitable activities and conduct such programs, but not limited to, the power to accept money or property, whether real or personal, or any interest wherever situated and making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
- k. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Section 501 (h) of the Internal Revenue Code), and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.
- l. No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that this corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in these articles.
- m. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- n. All references to sections of the Internal Revenue Code shall include such sections as of the date hereof and the corresponding section of any federal tax code.



Article IV: Membership

- Section 1: The Corporation shall have members who subscribe to the above objectives and abide by the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and the Operating Procedures of the corporation, and pay membership dues.
- Section 2: Members shall have the right to vote, contest elections, and hold office.
- Section 3: The Corporation reserves the right to deny membership to any organization who is considered to have not met the requirements outlined in the Articles of Incorporation and the Operating Procedures of the Corporation or have been involved in any activity detrimental to the Corporation's interest.

Article V: Organization

- Section 1: The General Body of the corporation shall meet at least once a year to elect the officers of the Executive Committee following the guidelines outlined in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.
- Section 2: The Executive Committee of the Corporation shall include at least 21 but no more than 25 members as the Office Bearers. There shall be one (1) Chairperson, one (1) Vice Chairperson, one (1) Executive Secretary, one (1) Joint Executive Secretary, one (1) Treasurer, (7) seven Outstanding Members, and at least (9) nine, but no more than (13) thirteen Member Organizations.

Article VI: Management

- Section 1: The Executive Committee shall manage the activities and affairs of the corporation. The activities and business of the corporation shall be managed and conducted in accordance with the Operating Procedures of the Corporation, provided the procedures are not inconsistent with the provisions of these Articles of Incorporation or contrary to the Laws of the USA or Canada.
- Section 2: Detail explanation of terms mentioned in the Constitution shall be provided in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation. If a detail explanation is not provided for a particular term, then the decision taken by a simple majority of the Executive Committee shall prevail.
- Section 3: The office bearers of the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the preservation and safe keeping of basic documents pertaining to the corporation and for maintaining books of minutes and other operational records.



Section 4: The FOBANA general body shall elect host organization for FOBANA convention. In the case of the emergency or unavoidable circumstances or inability of the host elect organization, FOBANA Executive committee shall elect a new host organization or itself for the FOBANA convention.

Article VII: Amendment Process

Section 1: The constitution can be amended by following the guideline stated in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.

Article VIII: Indemnification

Section 1: The corporation shall indemnify any member of the Executive Committee, Office bearer, former member of the Executive Committee or any person who may have served at its request against expenses actually incurred by him/her in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which he/she is made a party by reason of being or having been such member or office bearer, except in relation to matters as to which he/she shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty.

Article IX: Tenure

Section 1: The tenure of the Executive Committee shall end on the day of the termination of FOBANA Convention immediately after the new committee is sworn in and take over the charge from the outgoing Executive Committee.

Section 2: The tenure may be extended depending on the hosting of FOBANA Convention.

Section 3: The fiscal year of the corporation shall be from January 1 to December 31.

Article X: Dissolution of the Organization

Section 1: Upon the dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the



principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Section 2: Provisions for the regulation of the internal affairs and the distribution of the final assets upon dissolution of the corporation shall be set forth in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.

Article XI: Address

Section 1: The address, including street and number of the initial registered office of the corporation is 1090 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Suite 190, Washington, DC 20005 and the name of the initial registered agent at such address is National Registered Agents, Inc.

12/11

Witnesses

We, the following members of the FOBANA hereby sign as witness to this historic document.

Name	Signature
BEDARUL ISLAM BAKA	
Duke Khan	
Masboud M. Ali	
Rabind Karim Beld	
Bashir Ahmed	
Aliqueer Rahman	
Muzib Uddin	
KHALED AHMED ROUF	
RUBEL CHOWDHURY	
Shah Saleem	
Mahmud Musharraf Hussaini (BAAT)	
ARIF AHMED ASHAUF	
JASHIM UDDIN (Bangladeshi American Association of WA)	
MAHAMUD RAHMAN (Bangladesh Association of WA)	
MOHAMMED MOWLA DILU	
Mulul Chowdhury (Shahin)	
Iqbal Ahmed	
ZAHID HOSSAINI	
JANET BISWAS (

Witnesses

We, the following members of the FOBANA hereby sign as witness to this historic document.

Name	Signature
Mir H. Chowdhury	
Wolam Faroque Bhuiyan (BAN)	
Dr. FARUQUE AZAM (BTA, President)	
SHAH MOJAMMEL (BCC) President (Bangladesh Community of Chesapeake)	
MUSHARRUF SHAH (BCC) (BCC) musharrufe@gmail.com	
NAHIDA NASER Yasmin (BAH) Nahida nasyamin	
RANA WADUD (BANT) Ranawadud	
HASHMAT MOBIN (outstanding)	
AZADUL HAQ	
Mahabub Reza Rahim	
AHSAN CHOWDHURY	
SARKEA Hossain	
Obayedur Khan - Bangladesh Association of Southwest Florida	
ZAHID REZA BANGLA INSTITUTE OF PERFORMING ARTS & MEDIA	

BOB



Memorandum Of Understanding "The Houston Accord"

June 8, 2013, Houston, TX

We, the undersigned agree to the following:

1. That effective as of June 8, 2013 FOBANA will be declared as united.
2. That there will be only one FOBANA convention this year and all of us will join the 27th FOBANA convention also known as FOBANA 2013 to be held in Atlanta, GA from August 30-September 1, 2013. There will be no concurrent FOBANA convention in another venue this year but a consecutive FOBANA convention in Los Angeles, CA in 2014.
3. That on principle we will support the host organization from Los Angeles for their effort to host the FOBANA 2014 in LA. We agree that we will cast our personal votes for the host organization from Los Angeles if there is any election and we will pursue others to vote for them.
4. That the host organization will follow the due process and guidelines as stated in the governing document of the organization.
5. That both the Central Committee and the Steering Committee will remain unchanged till the general body meeting to be held at FOBANA 2013. During the general body meeting a new Executive Committee will be formed for the next term. Till then both committee will work together.
6. That all incoming organizations will follow the due process and go through the review process. However, they will not be considered as new organizations and will have voting power.
7. That both committees will explore how to combine and come up with one governing document.

- s. That all media and press releases will go through a review process by both the Central Committee and Steering Committee or by a media committee having representation from both committees.
9. That this accord is binding upon the Central and Steering Committee.

We sign below on our own will on the Eighth day of Sixth month of the Christian year of Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Rehan Reza



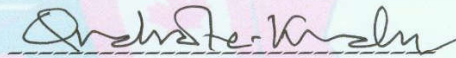
Mohammed Alamgir



Mahmud Musarraf Hossain



Qudrot E Khuda



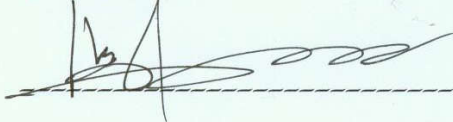
Azadul Haq



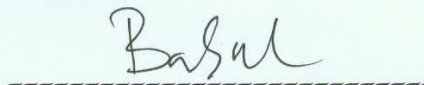
Dr. Zainul Abedin



Mir Chowdhury



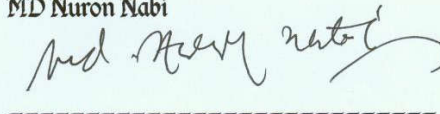
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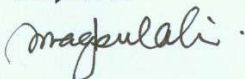
Duke Khan




MD Nuron Nabi



Maqbul Ali



Mahabub Reza Rahim



Hashmat Mobin

Hashmat Mobin

Rabiul Karim Belal

Rabiul Karim Belal

Tashim Uddin

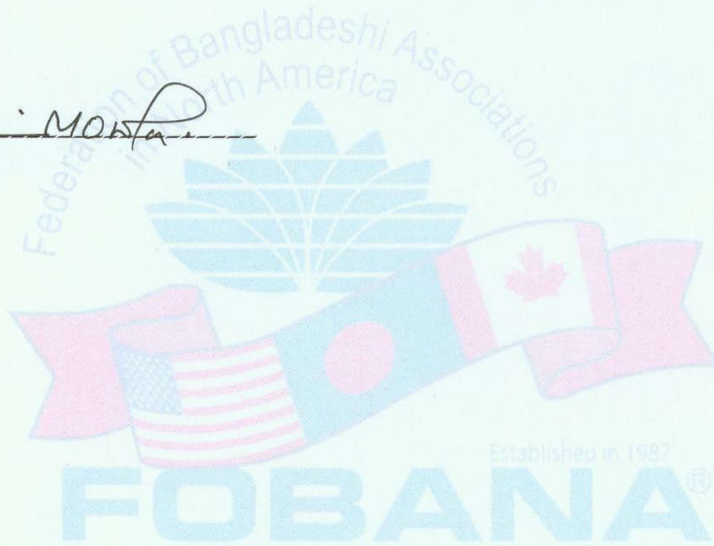
Tashim Uddin

Ahsan Chowdhury

Ahsan Chowdhury

M Mowla Dilu

M. Mowla Dilu





**Operating Procedure of
FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA
(FOBANA)**

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Article I: Geographical Location

Section 1: FOBANA shall be a North America wide organization. It shall not be limited to a particular state, province or city. The mailing address of the Registered Agent, Chairperson or any of the authorized Office Bearers can be used as the permanent address for official business.

Article II: The Business and Fiscal Year

Section 1: The business year of the FOBANA shall be from one FOBANA convention to the next FOBANA convention.

Section 2: The fiscal year of the FOBANA shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Article III: Organization

Section 1: The General Body:

- a) The General Body of FOBANA shall consist of all member organizations in good standing and all individual members of the Executive Committee.
- b) The General Body shall meet at least once a year.
- c) The General Body of Members shall have the authority to modify or annul any decision made by the Executive Committee.

Section 2: The Executive Body:

- a) The Executive body of FOBANA shall consist of at least 21 (Twenty One) but no more than 25 (Twenty Five) members and shall be called the FOBANA Executive Committee.
- b) There shall be 1 (One) Chairperson, 1 (One) Vice Chairperson, 1 (One) Executive Secretary, 1 (One) Joint Executive Secretary, 1 (One) Treasurer and 7 (Seven) Outstanding Members and at least 9 (nine), but no more than 13 (Thirteen) Member Organizations as the Office Bearers.
- c) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Executive Secretary, Joint Executive Secretary, Treasurer, 7 (Seven) Individuals members (respected individuals who have outstanding contributions to FOBANA) and up to 13 (Thirteen) members representing FOBANA Member Organizations shall be elected each year by the General Body of FOBANA.
- d) The head of the member organization or his/her representative shall represent the organization in the Executive Committee.
- e) Each member representing an organization shall be elected for a period of one year. If the person's term of office (in his/her organization) expires, the person replacing the outgoing person in that office shall complete the rest of the one-year term.
- f) The outgoing Chairperson and Executive Secretary shall automatically become members of the FOBANA Executive Committee as outstanding members in the following year.
- g) The Convener and Member Secretary of the current FOBANA convention shall automatically become members of the FOBANA Executive Committee as outstanding members in the following year. However, they shall not be qualified to run as Chairperson or Member Secretary in that year.
- h) The term of office bearers shall be for one year.
- i) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year. The presence of one-third members shall make a quorum.



- j) The Executive Committee shall form as many committees as required in order to carry out the function of FOBANA.
- k) Each committee shall have a Chairperson who shall report to the Executive Committee upon completion of the task or as directed otherwise.
- l) The Executive Committee shall assign its members the roles and responsibilities to manage each functional area identified in the By-Laws.
- m) Elected host organization shall automatically become a member of the FOBANA Executive Committee out of 13 (Thirteen) member organizations.

Section 3: The Advisors

- a) There shall be at least 3 Advisors to be nominated and selected by the Executive Committee for a term of one year.
- b) Individuals who have made an excellent contribution to FOBANA in the past and or served FOBANA shall be eligible for this position.
- c) All ex-chairpersons of FOBANA will have an option to be automatically selected as Advisors after serving one year as outstanding members. This will not be valid for any chairperson or persons designated as "persona non grata".
- d) The Advisors shall provide advice and guidance to the Executive Committee and ensure participation in meetings as needed basis.
- e) The responsibilities shall include but not limited to, involve on broader aspects relative to legal matters, hearing grievances and conflict resolution, and mediate variances.
- f) The Advisors shall avoid any conflicts and direct participation in the election process or its operational matters.
- g) Advisors shall have no voting rights, shall not openly support any candidate and shall not influence the election. However, if an Advisor represents an organization, then the Advisor shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges including voting rights. In that special case, the Advisor will be requested to resign from the post of the Advisor.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: FOBANA shall be an organization of organizations. Individuals cannot be a member of FOBANA.

Section 2: Except those organizations prohibited in the Articles of Incorporation, any organization may apply for membership of FOBANA. In addition to the above, no political, religious, regional, business, charity, privately held foundation or company shall not qualify to be a member. FOBANA, however, may offer non-voting Associate or student membership to organizations that may have a positive impact towards the common goal of the organization.

Section 3: Prospective member organization must have at least 50 documented members on file when applying for membership. Proof of this could be a written list of members' names, an online video, a photo of a meeting or event showing members.

Section 4: Prospective member organization must elect their officials democratically. Proof of this could be a written list of members' names, an online video, a photo of a meeting or event showing members.

Section 5: Prospective member organization must be involved in community activities serving people of Bangladeshi origins in North America.

Section 6: Membership application, in prescribed form, must be submitted to the Executive body of FOBANA.



- Section 7: The membership application must be recommended by at least one member organization of FOBANA. This can be waived by the Membership Reviewed Committee if they can verify it verbally.
- Section 8: The application must be submitted at least thirty days (30) before the scheduled meeting of the General Body of FOBANA or before any other deadline decided by the Executive Committee.
- Section 9: Membership application shall accompany application fee and yearly dues.
- Section 10: The application fee shall be non-refundable.
- Section 11: The amount of application fee and membership dues and late fee charge shall be decided every year at the annual general meeting of the General Body. In case no decision was taken, the charges of the immediately previous year shall prevail. The late fee for EC members will be \$50.00 and it will be effective from the beginning of the current tenure.
- Section 12: The Executive Body or its duly appointed subcommittee shall examine the application and if no irregularities are found, it shall recommend to the Executive Body to accept the membership.
- Section 13: In case any objection is raised at the Executive Body, it shall be placed for review by the General Body and the majority members' decision shall be accepted.
- Section 14: In case a membership application is not accepted, the General body shall, through the Chairman of FOBANA, inform the organization explaining the reason for denial. Membership dues shall be refunded but not the application fee.
- Section 15: When membership application is accepted by the General Body, the organization shall become a member of FOBANA beginning the next business year.
- Section 16: Yearly membership dues must be paid in advance. For example - membership dues for the year 2006 must be paid by November 30, 2005. If not paid by November 30, the membership shall be suspended beginning January 1. However the membership can be renewed by March 31, but a late fee charge shall be applied. If the membership is not renewed by March 31, the membership of the organization shall automatically be canceled. The organization shall have to apply as a new member.
- Section 17: A suspended member shall not have any privilege such as to participate in the organizational matter including exercising the right of vote in any decision making.
- Section 18: An organization may withdraw its membership by a written request signed by majority members of the Executive Body of the membership organization.
- Section 19: An organization that withdrew its membership may apply again. However, it shall be considered as a new applicant.
- Section 20: No two member-organizations shall have the same name.
- Section 21: In the case where a member organization breaks up and two or more parties claim to be the inheritance of the parent organization, the head of the organization immediately before the break up shall identify the inheritance of the parent organization. To become a member of FOBANA, the other party or parties must come up with a different, not confusing name and shall have to apply as a new member.

Article V: Voting Rights

- Section 1: Only member organizations in good standing shall be allowed to vote. The Membership Review Committee shall submit the list of potential voting members to the Executive Committee at the last EC meeting. The EC then shall finalize and approve the list. The Election Commissioner or Committee shall not have the right to make any changes to this list.
- Section 2: New member organizations shall not be allowed to vote in the first year of their membership period.



- Section 3: An organization must be a member in the immediate past year to be eligible to vote.
- Section 4: Each EC member shall have an individual vote, but then they shall not be allowed to cast another vote as the head or a representative of a member organization. In that event, there has to be another person voting for it who has written authorization and met the approval of the Election Commissioner.
- Section 5: The following rules shall apply for registration:
- (a) The FOBANA EC shall determine the amount of registration fee for the participating organization(s) each year to enable them to perform cultural program on the stage of the convention.
 - (b) The participating organization(s) shall be required to register with the Host Committee on a prescribed form indicating their interest to perform on the stage of the convention. The registration fee must be paid directly to the EC within established time frame. The EC will provide the Host Committee a complete list of the registered organizations along with the amount of registration fee so collected 15 days prior to hosting the Convention.
 - (c) A valid member organization must also pay the registration fee to the EC to be eligible to vote in the AGM even if their organization decides not to perform.

Article VI: Authority

- Section 1: The General Body of FOBANA, consisting of its members, shall have the authority to remove any or all the members, including office bearers of the Executive Committee by a resolution of vote of no-confidence passed by 2/3 (Two-thirds) majority of members present at the meeting or by 2/3 (Two-thirds) majority of members in a mail ballot or by resolution adopted by a 2/3 (Two-thirds) majority of members present at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. Special General Meeting could be arranged via teleconference. However, impeachment, ousting or abolishment of the entire Executive Committee can only be done in a face to face general meeting.
- Section 2: The Executive Committee shall have the right to revoke the privilege of the Host Organization to host the annual convention and override the decision taken at the annual general meeting if the Host Organization does not adhere to the guideline set forth in the By-Laws for preparing for the convention.
- Section 3: The authority of the Host Organization or Host Committee shall be limited to organizing the annual convention as defined in the By-Laws.
- Section 4: The decision taken by the simple majority of the Executive Committee members shall have the final authority on any areas not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution or By-Laws.

Article VII: Annual Meeting

- Section 1: There shall be at least one FOBANA General Body meeting.
- Section 2: The simple majority of the member organizations (not a number of persons representing various organizations) shall make the quorum.
- Section 3: The following businesses shall be conducted at the Annual General Body Meeting:
- a) Review the activities of the past year.
 - b) Review the audited financial report of the past year
 - c) Elect Officers for the following year
 - d) Elect Host Organization for the next FOBANA Convention
 - e) Miscellaneous matters included in the agenda



f) Any other matters from the floor

Section 4: Proxy: Any member of a decision-making body such as FOBANA EC may delegate his or her voting right to any member of the "same body" to vote in his or her absence. As such, no member of FOBANA EC can designate another member from outside FOBANA EC to attend and vote during his or her absence during AGM or any EC meetings or teleconferences.

Article VIII: Amendment Process

Section 1: Amendments to the Article of Incorporation shall be jointly proposed in writing by at least two (2) member organizations and submitted to the Executive Committee at least forty-five (45) days in advance. Requests from an individual or single member organization shall not be entertained.

Section 2: Any amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall require the consent of a simple majority of the General Body of FOBANA and/or two-third (2/3) members of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Amendments to the By-Laws may be proposed by any single member organization of FOBANA and must be submitted to the Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the yearly general meeting or Executive Committee Meeting or teleconference.

Section 4: Any amendment to the By-Laws shall require a simple majority of the General Body of FOBANA or members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5: Any amendments to the Operating Procedure shall require only the simple majority of the Executive Committee and that can be also be accomplished via teleconference calls and/or e-mails.

Article IX: Activities

Section 1: The main activity of the FOBANA shall be, but not limited to, hold an annual convention.

Section 2: The FOBANA shall either itself host the annual convention or give the responsibility to one of its member organizations to host the convention. The practice should be to choose an organization to be the host of the convention.

Section 3: FOBANA shall promote and uphold the interest of the Bangladeshi Community in North America.

Article X: Roles and Responsibilities of Officers

Section 1: **Chairperson:**

The Chairperson shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this Organization. The chairperson shall lead, guide and Chair the Executive Committee meetings, represent FOBANA to outside bodies and the Committee to the General Body members. The chairperson shall maintain liaison and coordination with the Bangladesh Embassy, the Government, and contact with Advisors to seek guidance when needed.

Section 2: **Vice-Chairperson:**

The Vice Chairperson shall be the second person in the order of precedence to the Chairperson and shall carry out the Chairperson's function in the Chairpersons' absence or when authorized by the Chairperson. Vice Chairperson shall oversee the function of all sub-committees including providing guidance and making decisions needed for its operation.

Section 3: **Executive Secretary:**

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for all organizational matters and shall oversee the functions and operation of Mainstream, Media and Youth wings of the Organization. The responsibilities shall include but not limited to, all administrative matters, develop strategic plans both long and short term, develop marketing plan, keeping minutes of the meeting, distribution of the minutes of the meeting, maintain official files including updated list of membership and their contact addresses and telephone numbers, coordination in the execution on EC decisions, assisting Host Organizations, and communicating with media. The Executive Secretary shall also prepare and



present the Annual report, assist in the formation of Election Committee and any other sub-committees.

Section 4: Joint Executive Secretary:

The Joint Executive Secretary shall assist the Executive Secretary and acts as the Executive General Secretary in his/her absence. The Joint Executive Secretary shall record minutes and prepare and submit draft copies to the Executive General Secretary for his/her attention. The Joint Executive Secretary shall assist in the development of local organizations and to become a member of FOBANA Organizations; assist the organization in outreaching the Youth, Mainstream arena, and neglected area.

Section 5: Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall hold the funds, manage all financial matters including maintenance of up-to-date records of all financial transactions, submit statement of receipts and expenses to the Executive Committee, preparation of accounts and budget, collection of dues, responsible preparation of annual balance sheet and income statement for audit, Tax Return to IRS, maintain annual registration status current, deal with insurance matters, and marketing. The treasurer shall also prepare and present the Annual Report to the General Body Meeting.

The account shall be maintained in a reputed banking institution; the account shall be operated by the Treasurer. The Chairperson may empower the Executive Secretary or Joint Executive Secretary to operate the account in the absence of Treasurer. The treasurer shall liaise and coordinate with Host Committee in tracking matters and seek information related to financial status in accordance with the policy guidelines of FOBANA.

Article XI: Standing Committees

Section 1: Each standing committee shall be chaired by one of the presents or past Executive Committee members and will have at least one other member.

Section 2: Standing committees shall have the right to co-opt any number of members of the Executive Committee, Member Organizations to be a part of their subcommittee. They may also co-opt technical experts, subject matter experts or consultants to carry out their responsibilities.

Section 3: Standing committees shall be required to give a progress report on the Executive Committee meetings.

Section 4: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Secretary will be officio members of all standing committees.

Article XII: Roles and Responsibilities Of the Standing Committees

Section 1: Roles and Responsibilities of Constitution and Procedure Committee

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, and its Operating Procedures, all official forms, and guidelines and report their recommendation to the Executive Committee.

The Committee will periodically review the policies and procedures and draft revised versions to be presented to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will periodically review the forms used and revise them if necessary before presenting them to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will solicit input from other EC members and include their suggestions in the draft proposal.

The Committee will propose any new amendment to the Executive Secretary before the stipulated deadline for Annual General Meeting so that the Executive Secretary can inform the members.



Section 2: Roles and Responsibilities of Legal Committee

The Committee is responsible for handling all legal aspects of the organization.

The Committee will handle all legal issues affecting the operation of FOBANA, consultation with experts, select and hire and on call Attorney, initiate action to promote and protect FOBANA interest, represent FOBANA and handle all legal issues, guide to resolve disputes, mediate variances, and review important letters and documents before they are issued as needed.

Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities of Unification Committee

The Committee is responsible coordinating all matters related to unification efforts between different groups who like to join FOBANA.

The Committee will initiate dialogues with any individual, organization or group of organizations to a part of FOBANA.

The committee will create proposal and then present them to EC for approval before giving it to the negotiating parties

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of Media and Public Awareness Committee

This Committee will be responsible for all Media and public facing matters

This Committee will create all press release and send them to media outlets.

This Committee will write articles and publish them in FOBANA website to create public awareness for FOBANA

Section 5: Roles and Responsibilities of Business and Investment Committee

The core mission of this Committee is to provide service, promote and facilitate business opportunities between USA and Bangladesh by American, NRBA (Non-Resident Bangladeshi Americans) and Bangladeshi businessmen. As a non-profit organization, FOBANA will not engage itself in any for profit business.

The committee will not engage in any business directly on behalf of FOBANA

The committee is responsible for making contacts with potential NRBA (Non-Resident Bangladeshi Americans) looking for investment opportunities in both Bangladesh and USA.

Explore Retirement Planning and Retirement Investment, Investment in Real Estate and or properties by providing advice, and seed money or start-up capital, pre-IPO funds or franchising finance.

The committee will maintain contact with Bangladeshi Business Organizations, prepare and maintain all professional NRB database, prepare and maintain NRB investment database and formulate policies.

The committee will be responsible for open communication, leading and guiding on NRB issues, liaising with Bangladesh Embassy and Government at home, liaise with the US and Bangladesh Business Council, hold seminars and share information.

Section 6: Roles and Responsibilities of Budget and Finance Committee

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, and its Operating Procedures, all official forms, and guidelines and report their recommendation to the Executive Committee.

The Committee will develop policies and procedures and present them to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will handle all legal issues affecting the operation of FOBANA, consultation with experts, select and hire and on call Attorney, initiate action to promote and protect FOBANA interest, represent FOBANA and handle all legal issues, guide to resolve disputes, mediate variances, and review important letters and documents before they are issued as needed.



Section 7: Roles and Responsibilities of Youth Forum Committee

The Committee is responsible for all youth matters affecting their interest.

Help to meet their basic personal and social needs to be valued and useful, and build skills and competencies that will encourage them to function and contribute not only to their daily lives but also for the benefit of the community they belong.

Establish contacts and create a database, develop youth chapter, encourage leadership, participation in education, access to computers, learn languages and culture, educate in communication, guide to work with diversity in mainstream, host seminars, participate in volunteer service, assist necessary training and job search in local businesses which employs youth in meaningful and relevant work.

Find out talents among the young generations from across the nation, highlight them in FOBANA website, Facebook, and Newsletter.

Encourage young writers to write to FOBANA Newsletters, be contributors in FOBANA website.

Section 8: Roles and Responsibilities of Health and Wellness Committee

The Committee is responsible for providing guidance and recommendation on healthy living, nutrition, homemaking, mental health and general wellness.

One of the prime goals of this Committee would be to create a support portal with relevant contact information for the abused women (Those who are suffering in silence)

To create a hotline where the victim can leave a message in Bangla or English if necessary. Calls will be directed to Women Affairs designated person who will then re-route it to the right agency.

Invite and work with other local national agencies and industry leading experts in this area so that we can provide the necessary support on a national level.

Publish some useful papers in easy to read Bangla and create powerful messages in video and distribute via YouTube, FOBANA Facebook page and website.

Continue educating women in various cities and explain their rights and where they can go for help and create guidelines to women entrepreneurs who want to open a business (boutique, sarees, jewelry etc.).

Dos and don'ts of how to do a business from home (for women).

Educate how to form a company, run a business etc., and build an exchange portal where they can get in touch with vendors in Bangladesh for products.

Highlight successful Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs in our website and invite them to FOBANA convention.

Provide written articles about the nutritional values of our everyday ethnic foods.

Highlight risks among men of Bangladeshi origins supported by research

Invite the physicians of Bangladeshi origins to help build a network of support in the healthcare area.

Section 9: Roles and Responsibilities of Social Networking Committee

The Committee is responsible for leveraging online tools such as Facebook, Twitter, Google+ etc. to promote FOBANA and its activities.

The Committee will actively seek young volunteers who are visible and frequent visitors in the social media and groom them to become FOBANA promoter



The Committee will educate the young generation about FOBANA history so that they can spread the news.

The Committee will ensure that FOBANA is very visible in the cyber world, however, all messages will be in tune with FOBANA goals and mission.

Section 10: Roles and Responsibilities of Newsletter Committee

The Committee will be responsible for developing a periodic Newsletter

The Committee will actively seek writers to write articles for the newsletter

Section 11: Roles and Responsibilities of Bangladesh Liaison Committee

The Committee will work as a bridge between contacts in Bangladesh FOBANA EC in USA on all matters related to FOBANA interest.

The Committee will work with media, keeping contacts with professionals engaged in arts and culture, business, banking, education, industry, government, manufacturing, and media to project FOBANA mission and objectives and gain their support.

Assist in the selection of guests and artists for participation in the FOBANA Convention. However, the final decision will be made by Host Committee.

Maintain a database of all contacts in Bangladesh and share with FOBANA EC.

Hold press events at the Press Club or other suitable venues.

Promote and encourage Universities to participate in Seminars and other activities at the FOBANA convention

Help to set up meetings for FOBANA EC visiting Bangladesh with media, journalists and important personalities to gain their support and promote partnership in our effort to implement FOBANA mission and objectives.

Promote FOBANA in a positive manner and debunk any myths and misconception about FOBANA by participating in talk shows, interviews, and round table discussion.

Open dialogue with relevant parties in Bangladesh and recommend to EC how FOBANA can make a tangible impact to Bangladesh in an unbiased and non-political manner.

Seek sponsorships for FOBANA from prominent business entities.

Section 12: Roles and Responsibilities of Seminar Committee

The Committee will be responsible for inviting prominent academicians, scientists, research experts, subject matter experts, technical professionals to review papers, presentations submitted to FOBANA for Seminar presentation.

Presenters will be allowed to submit their papers online via FOBANA website, these papers will then be sent to a mailbox of this Committee.

The Committee members will review and catalog the papers.

All papers will be in a database so that anyone can do research on these valuable papers.

Invite Bangladeshi students in all major North American and Bangladeshi universities to submit papers.

All papers will be published online after the review process.

The Committee will pick the best papers among the submitted series then invite them to attend the FOBANA Convention. The list will also be presented to the host committee. The host committee will decide whom they want to pay for ticket and accommodation.



Liaise with the Host Committee and work with them closely to organize seminars and provide the topics selected by the Committee for presentation at the convention

Recommend prominent individuals who have made an extraordinary contribution in the field of arts, business, social, political, medicine and science & technology for recognition by the FOBANA EC at the convention.

Section 13: Roles and Responsibilities of Cultural Committee

The Committee is responsible for promoting the cultural aspects of FOBANA and maintain coordination with the Host Committee on the cultural affairs.

The Committee will help member organizations to promote their cultural events, dramas, dance groups, singers to attend other member states.

The Committee will lead and guide the Host Committee and its cultural committee to organize cultural events at the convention

The Committee will actively seek talents across North American and recommend them to Host Committee for inviting them to the convention.

The Committee will select judges during the convention to pick the best performer award

The Committee will help the host committee to arrange promotional tours or events leading to the convention.

The Committee will actively promote the FOBANA Artist Database.

The Committee may help the host committee to get artists from Bangladesh, but FOBANA will not be engaged in any business contract or financial dealing with Host Organization or the artist.

The Committee will not be responsible for any artist payments during the convention

The Committee will collaborate with the Media and Public Awareness Committee to publish FOBANA Newsletters.

Section 14: Roles and Responsibilities of Alumni Committee

The core mission of this Committee will be to invite, show proper respect and keep in touch with the FOBANA Alumnus.

The Committee will develop and maintain a database with the contact information for all FOBANA alumni

All alumni will be formally invited to the convention and to their special breakfast event.

An FOBANA pin will be presented to these Alumni (depends on budget approval)

All alumni will receive a Certificate of Appreciation for their contribution to FOBANA

All alumni will be requested to send their complete bio data and picture which will be permanently archived and promoted in FOBANA website.

FOBANA EC will provide special lanyard for the FOBANA Alumni distinguishing them all other guests.

Alumni will be invited to participate in the Committees.

Section 15: Roles and Responsibilities of Membership Verification Committee

The Committee is responsible for verifying the membership applications of organizations both new and old.

To assure that their registration is current with the State and also with IRS,



Verify if they have Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

Verify if they have minimum number of paid members, held elections according to their Articles of Incorporation, paid membership dues,

Verify if they paid their registration fees with the Host Organization and validate their membership status so they can vote in the annual election held by the Executive committee.

Retain a database for a membership organization, maintain documentation with necessary registration forms including copies of Registration with state and IRS, identify deficiencies, provide opportunities to make a correction, and recommend any modification of processes and policies.

This Committee will present the membership application to the EC monthly meetings and recommend that their membership is granted to the organization. Once EC accepts the application, then the membership package will be sent to the organization.

Section 16: Roles and Responsibilities of Mainstream Liaison Committee

The Committee is responsible for communicating with the mainstream personalities and open dialogue with them

This Committee will invite mainstream politicians and prominent people in FOBANA convention

Section 17: Roles and Responsibilities of Awards and Guest Selection Committee

The Committee is responsible for coordinating FOBANA awards and help select guests for FOBANA Convention.

The Committee will prepare guideline and criteria to select candidates for FOBANA award and then present the list to FOBANA EC for final approval

The Committee will suggest and help in contacting guests for the FOBANA convention by working closely with the Host Committee. The Host Committee will have the final say on who they want to invite.

The Committee will order awards ahead of time, keep them and coordinate the award presentation ceremony when the FOBANA Chairperson will present the award.

The Committee will coordinate with the Host Committee to preserve the time slot for presentation

The Committee will work with the Cultural Committee for the best cultural performance awards

Section 18: Roles and Responsibilities of Scholarship Committee

The Committee is responsible for fund raising, selecting and finally awarding annual scholarships to talented students from Bangladeshi origin

The Committee will prepare guideline and criteria to select candidates for FOBANA Scholarships and present the list to FOBANA EC for final approval

This committee will raise funds for the scholarship

Donation for the scholarship program can be received from individuals and/or organizations in the USA and/or Bangladesh

Each scholarship will be for the amount of \$500. Donors can contribute in multiples of \$500. There is no maximum limit.

All donations to are tax-exempt to the maximum limit allowed by law

Money donated towards the FOBANA scholarship fund should only be used for the objective of the committee

All donations collected for a given year will be given away as scholarships for that given year.



The financial awards will be given to the students from the host city/state of the Convention for the respective year

The financial award will be a one-time financial award \$1000 per student

The Host Committee will work with the Scholarship Committee and Central Committee to seek and select the recipients

The awards will be personally presented to the recipients by the donors themselves during the FOBANA Convention

Each Donor will be given a Certificate of Appreciation from FOBANA for their contribution

The applicants must be Bangladeshi Americans residing in the State where the Convention is being held.

High School Graduates who have a cumulative GPA between 3.5 - 4.0 in the given year of the Convention.

Applicants must have community involvement

A properly filled out Application form, a color photo must be submitted by two months before the convention of each year. This date can be changed by the Scholarship Committee.

The recipients must agree to allow FOBANA to publicize their photo, name for promotion.

Each year the Scholarship Committee will come up with a topic for the essay

The essay (500 words or less) will be submitted to the Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee may invite other members of the community or academic to review the essay.

The Scholarship Committee will then short list the candidate and submit to FOBANA EC for final ratification

After the ratification, the award recipients will be officially notified

The awards will be given on the last day of the convention on the main stage

No members of current FOBANA Executive Committee or Advisers can participate in the scholarship program

This committee will have at least 3 past FOBANA Chairperson as members

The current Chairperson and the Executive Secretary will be the officio members

Article XIII: Eligibility to be a Host Organization

Section 1: The member organization shall be required to have prior experience to host at least a mini convention.

Section 2: The member organization shall be an active member of FOBANA for two (2) years.

Section 3: The same member organization shall not be qualified to become a Host Organization again within five (5) years of hosting an FOBANA Convention.

Section 4: The member organization shall be required to sign an agreement with FOBANA to the effect that they shall abide by the FOBANA Constitution, By-Laws, and Guideline for Organizing FOBANA Convention without any reservation and pay by a certified check an amount of \$1000.00 in advance as Security Deposit. Member organizations will not be considered as a candidate and will not be allowed to participate in the election or selection process unless the agreement is signed and a \$1000.00 check is given to the Election Commissioner. In the case when a member organization is not elected or selected, then the check will be immediately returned and the agreement will be



voided. This deposit shall be refunded to the Host Committee prior to hosting the event upon meeting the requirements as specified in the agreement. The deposit may be forfeited in case the member organization does not follow the FOBANA Constitution, By-Laws and guidelines.

Section 5: It is preferred that the member organization have IRS 501 (c) 3 status. In case that they do not have the status, FOBANA shall receive the corporate checks and within 7 days FOBANA Treasurer shall disburse the check to the Host Organization

Section 6: The member organization must have a sound organizational and adequate financial strength to function effectively.

Section 7: The member organization must submit proof that they are duly registered in their State as active organization/corporation.

Section 8: The member organization must certify that they have duly paid federal and local income taxes and any other required papers are currently in their said state.

Article XIV: Host Committee

Section 1: The Host Organization must form a Host Committee for the preparation of the convention.

Section 2: The Host Committee must have one Convener, one Member Secretary, and one Treasurer.

Section 3: Convener and Member Secretary of the Host Committee shall be included as members of FOBANA EC and attend all meetings during the term of the FOBANA Convention.

Section 4: The Host Committee can have as many co-conveners; assistants, committees or members to carry out their responsibility, however, only the Convener and the Member Secretary will be allowed to act as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the Host Organization.

Section 5: Host Committee shall not create or designate any official position with the title that the leadership in hierarchy holds in the FOBANA EC so it creates any confusion for having two Chairmen in FOBANA Convention or on any publication materials that Host Committee will circulate.

Section 6: If the Executive Committee raises any fund for the convention then the host committee shall give 20% to Executive Committee.

Article XV: Guideline for organizing an FOBANA Convention

Section 1: The Host Organization must follow this guideline while organizing an FOBANA convention.

Section 2: Use of name: The proper name for the organization and the convention must be used. The name of the organization is Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America or FOBANA. FOBANA is also synonymous to the convention. Hence, FOBANA followed by the year of the convention can also be used.

Section 3: Use of logo: FOBANA is a registered trademark; therefore, it is necessary to use the correct logo in all communication. The Chairperson or Executive Secretary shall provide the official logo to the Host Organization. No other version of the logo shall be allowed.

Section 4: Orientation Documents: A collection of templates and very useful information are stored in the FOBANA archive. The Host Organization shall review these files first before creating any new version. If however, a new version is needed to be created for a creative reason, the structure and content should be similar.

Section 5: Inclusion of EC names in Communication: The contact information of the Chairperson and Executive Secretary shall be included in every communication and promotional materials that the host organization will produce. This is especially necessary for posters, Television commercials, newspaper advertisement, press releases, a fund raising campaign and invitation letters. This will be the only way to prove that the host organization is approved by the Executive Committee.



- Section 6: Keeping Executive Committee informed: The Host Organization shall inform the Executive Committee for all media communication. Executive Committee can then be prepared to answer from the media about the organization. All convention related questions will be dealt by the Host Organization.
- Section 7: Official Letterhead: The Host Organization shall use an official letterhead template that has a reference to the Chairperson and Member Secretary of FOBANA.
- Section 8: FOBANA Theme Song: The Host Organization must play the FOBANA theme song during the opening and closing ceremony. They may also play it throughout the convention. The theme song is available on the web site or will be provided to them by the Chairperson or Executive Secretary.
- Section 9: Flags: The Host Organization must display flags of three countries in equal size and with proper mount (Bangladesh, USA, and Canada) during the opening ceremony.
- Section 10: Joint Meet the Press session: The Host Organization shall organize at least one "Meet The Press" session in New York or any other suitable venue about 2-3 months before the convention. FOBANA Executive Members, Advisors will join at their own expense. The venue, food, a 4'x10' banner, media packets and other expenses shall be the responsibility of the Host Organization. The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and the Executive Secretary shall be seated at the head table along with the other officers from the Host Organization. In for any unforeseen reason, such session can't be organized, then the Host Organization shall spend the fund allocated for this session in television and newspaper promotion.
- Section 11: EC members in the opening ceremony: The Chairperson and the Executive Secretary shall be allowed to give a brief speech at the opening ceremony. The Host Organization shall allocate at least 3 minutes each. The Host Organization may invite additional Executive Members or Advisors at their own discretion.
- Section 12: All EC members on stage: Anytime during the 3-day convention the Host Organization shall invite all EC members (including the member organizations) on the stage and introduce them to the audience. This may be a simple introduction by announcing their names, organizations they belong to, or courtesy may be extended to allow few of them to speak. The latter would be at the discretion of the Host Organization.
- Section 13: Updates and statuses: The Host Organization shall provide periodic status on the progress of the convention to the Executive Committee. These updates can be in the form of e-mail or verbally in the teleconference.
- Section 14: Sponsorship Packet: The Host Organization shall send hard copy of sponsorship packets and posters to all member organizations as soon as they are prepared.
- Section 15: Convention Requirement: The Host Organization shall provide the following amenities to the Executive Committee during the convention:
- a) A meeting room that can hold up to 100 people for all three (3) days of the convention.
 - b) Either serve food or provide food coupons to all Executive Committee members on the day of the FOBANA Annual General Meeting
 - c) Provide specially marked Lanyard for the Executive Members, Advisors and FOBANA Alumni members
- Section 16: Executive Committee visit: The Executive Committee members will visit (at their own expense) the host city at least once before the convention at a mutually agreed date and time to witness the progress for the convention. The Host Organization shall provide a meeting room, food and if possible a tour of the venue. The Executive Committee members will meet with the members of the Host Committee and share their experience and wisdom.
- Section 17: Selection of Chief Guest: The Host Organization shall not invite any political or religious figure as the Chief Guest. This includes but not limited to any sitting ministers, head of opposition party, head or senior members of any political or religious parties. The Host Organization must select the

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FOBANA 2017-2018 Annual Report

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